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Poetry.

AT LAST.

JOHN G. WHITTIER.

When on my day of life the night is falling,
And, in the winds from unsunned spaces blown,
I hear far voices out of darkness calling
My feet to paths unknown,

Thou who hast made my home of life so pleasant,
Leave not its tenant when its walls decay!
O Love divine, O Helper ever present,
Be thou my strength and stay!

Be near me when all else from me is drifting—
Earth, sky, home's pictures, days of shade and shine—
And kindly faces to my own uplifting
The love which answers mine.

I have but Thee, O Father! Let my spirit
Be with me then to comfort and uphold;
No gate of pearl, no branch of palm I merit,
Nor street of shining gold.

Suffice it if—my good and ill unreckoned,
And both forgiven through thy abounding grace—
I find myself by hands familiar beckoned
Unto my fitting place;

Some humble door among thy many mansions,
Some sheltering shade where sin and striving cease,
And flows forever through heaven's green expansions
The river of Thy peace.

There from the music round about me stealing
I fain would learn the new and holy song,
And find, at last, beneath Thy trees of healing,
The life for which I long.

NOBILITY.

ALICE CARY.

True worth is in *being*, not *seeming*;
In doing each day that goes by
Some little good—not in the dreaming
Of great things to do by and by.
For whatever men say in blindness,
And spite of the fancies of youth,
There is nothing so kindly as kindness,
And nothing so royal as truth.

We get back our price as we measure,
We cannot do wrong and feel right;
Nor can we give pain pain and gain pleasure,
For justice avenges each slight.
The air for the wing of the sparrow,
The bush for the robin and wren,
But always the path that is narrow
And straight for the children of men.

We cannot make bargains for blisses,
Nor catch them like fishes in nets;
And sometimes the things our life misses
Help more than the things which it gets.
For good hieth not in pursuing,
Nor gaining of great nor of small;
But just in the doing, and doing
As we would be done by, is all.

Through envy, through malice, through hating,
Against the world, early and late,
No lot of our courage abating,
Our part is to work and to wait.
And slight is the sin; of his trouble
Whose winnings are less than his worth;
For he who is honest is noble
Whatever his fortunes or birth.

Our Story Teller.

THE CONQUEROR.

"Such a wedding! No bridesmaids, no music, no breakfast, no reception! I declare, I should not feel as if I had been married!" exclaimed Marion Willoughby, throwing herself down upon the low fauteuil in her own elegantly appointed drawing room, and drawing off the delicately tinted gloves which served as a finish to the exquisite toilette.

There was only one other occupant in the room, a man, tall and handsome, standing with one hand resting on the back of her chair. She did not glance up as she spoke, or note that Chester Thornley's face had lost color.

"You are speaking of Miss Marvine's wedding," he said. "There is one essential to most marriages you have not enumerated in your list of things lacking. Was love wanting?"

"Oh, no. I believes she loves him. She certainly must do so to an almost absurd extent. They are to go housekeeping in an unfashionable locality up town, where he must be away from early morning until quite 6 o'clock. He occupies some salaried position—clerk in a bank, I believe—and she might have married anybody."

"Honest labor degrades no man, Marion," came the firm, quick answer. "Even a clerkship is not always found, and I would rather break stones in the street than live on money acquired by slothfully reclining at ease, though in such case I would ask no woman to share my lot."

"This looks like breaking stones, does it not?" she laughingly answered, letting her own jeweled fingers close over the man's hand where it rested—a hand whose shape betokened its aristocracy, and which was soft and white as a woman's.

At her light touch his strong arm quivered. He bent and let his lips rest an instant caressingly on her hair, for the girl beside him was his affianced wife.

"It could break stones, though, dear, and I don't know but it would make me a better man. Suppose I lost my money, Marion? Suppose it were all swept away, even me in an hour, and I had a position offered me—a position which would enable me to live humbly, very much as your friend is going to live—tell me what you would do?"

"You are only talking to try me, Chester, and I hate such questions. In the first place, it is entirely out of reason, for even were it so, papa, you know, is very rich, and our home could always be with him."

"I said to you that I would rather starve than eat the bread of charity. Therefore, putting this possibility aside, tell me what you would do?"

Her fingers released their grasp upon his hand. Was there significance in the action? He smiled bitterly as he saw it. His face was very pale now. Except that he stood still behind the chair she must have noticed it.

"You are utterly absurd this afternoon, Chester," she said, petulantly. "Have I not just told you that Edith Marvine's wedding was more like a funeral than a wedding? And though I presume I shall one day have to attend my own funeral, I will not, I assure you, be a voluntary agent. Have you nothing more agreeable that you can find to say to me?"

The man shook off a certain something which seemed to envelop him in an almost invisible cloud, and he answered with the old courteous grace which suited him so well, and made his power with women almost a proverb.

Money always seemed to belong to him by an inherent right. It was so natural that he should be rich. No one could have imagined Chester Thornley poor. He knew so well how to expend his wealth. He gave it so generously, yet without ostentation, that no man envied him.

Yet he knew half an hour later, when he left his farewell on Marion Willoughby's lips, that it was a farewell to all hopes and happiness.

The blow had already fallen. He was a ruined man, with scarcely a shilling he could call his own; he had had no wish ungratified money could procure in this thirty years of life. It had fallen, too, through no fault of his own, though there was feeble comfort in that. There was comfort, however, in the knowledge that he owed no man, and that he might start afresh in the world with no burden on his broad shoulders or his conscience.

True there was a deep wound in his heart. He had loved Marion so well that to give her up was to voluntarily renounce God's sunlight. But all her life had been spent amid luxury. It was to her a necessity. Deprived of it she would droop and fade; and better any lot than to see her struggle and know that he had brought it upon her.

Besides, she had made her choice.

To her a wedding meant flowers, music, friends, the toilet of a bride. The future, the communion of two hearts, the solemn responsibilities incurred were but secondary considerations.

"Good-bye, my darling," he said, as they parted; but when she added, "Until to-morrow," he added neither yea nor nay.

"To-morrow" the world knew that Chester Thornley's ship had gone upon the rocks. Many of his business associates would have held out to him a helping hand, but firmly and kindly he refused every offer.

He wrote Marion a few lines, recalling to her mind the conversation of the day before, and released her from her vows to him.

"If any good fortune comes to me," he concluded, "you shall hear of it. If I am silent it is because my life is wrapped in silence and shadow. Bless you, darling, for the light you have cast upon it. It will be like looking back to heaven. I dare not see you again—I tested my strength to its full extent yesterday. God grant that some better man may win your love as you better is not within his power. Nor must you think that I blame you that you shrank from sharing the new life upon which I enter. Flowers cannot live without sunlight. I only wanted to be sure that I made no mistake in interpreting the best course for your happiness."

And then, with a few more warm, passionate, loving words of farewell, the letter closed.

Two years passed, and the little world which had known Chester Thornley so well knew him no more. He had entirely disappeared. It was as though the sea had opened and swallowed him up.

Marion Willoughby was Marion Willoughby still. If she suffered she made no sign, those who had seen the one sparkling stone which had been the pledge of her engagement to Chester Thornley noticed that she wore it still, and others, yet more narrow watchers, observed that always when she entered a crowded room she would take a hasty glance around, as though expecting to find some one not there.

She was yet but 22, a belle and a beauty still. The third winter of his absence she left home to spend several weeks with an aunt.

"I cannot spare you," her father had said when the invitation came.

But she, going close to him and laying her head for a moment on his breast, said:

"I think papa, it would be best."

They were simple words, but he interpreted them aright. The old wound would not cease its bleeding. She wanted to go amid new scenes, so he only kissed her and bade her to remember that the old father awaited her return. * * *

"You have not been through the steel works," some one said to her one day. "It is really a most interesting sight. Will you join a party if we make up one to visit them, Miss Willoughby?"

"With pleasure," she answered lightly.

And her aunt, charmed with the success of her beautiful niece, smiled at Clay Clayton's numerous devices to insnare Marion's society.

He was the great *parti* of the place. She had heard something of some early disappointment in Marion's life. It would be a splendid triumph thus to obliterate it.

The morning appointed for the expedition dawned beautiful and bright. They seemed, indeed, like drones intruding upon some busy hive of workers as they entered the great building and looked about them. Department after department they visited, watching with interest the delicate machinery and its wonderful working.

Marion's cheeks flushed with interest, and Clay Clayton, noting, thought he had never seen her look so beautiful.

To-day he determined he must speak, when suddenly he heard a cry, and glancing up saw her standing quite apart from the group, her eyes ablaze, her lips quivering.

At a little distance from her, adjusting some piece of machinery, was a man in a working dress. Her cry also attracted him, and he looked up.

Their eyes met. His face grew deathly pale, but gave no other sign of recognition. She went straight toward him, oblivious of all, with hand outstretched.

"Chester," she said in a voice scarce louder than a whisper, "at last?"

He bowed low in response and took no notice of her hand, but the old dauntless pride was in the uplifted head and fearless glance.

"Did you know that I was here?" she questioned.

"No," he replied. "I am no longer in your world."

"You will come to see me?"

"I cannot."

Here his voice broke a little.

"Mr. Clayton," she said, "let me present my friend, Mr. Thornley."

Spite of the innate breeding of the man, some of the instinctive surprise at hearing a steel worker addressed by Miss Willoughby as a friend made itself apparent in the manner he yet strove to conceal.

Then the party passed on. He wondered, however, why Marion lingered a moment in the office to address the superintendent some questions as they came out into the air.

He had meant, too, to ask her on the way home the question which all the day, and for many days, had been trembling on his lips, but there was a new expression in her eyes and mouth which instantly told him this was not the time to plead his cause.

Had that fellow inside, who bowed so like a gentleman, been otherwise than a workman, he might have suspected him as in some way responsible. It was quite singular enough as it was that Miss Willoughby should have addressed him as a friend. Doubtless some man who had seen better days, and for whom she felt womanly pity. * * *

"Can I see Mr. Thornley?"

The mistress of the humble little cottage in one of the suburbs of the large city looked amazed at the beautiful young lady who asked the question.

"Indeed, I suppose you may. He's gone up to his room, where he spends all his evenings, and not a bit of supper to-night has he touched. Shall I call him down?"

"No; let me go to him."

"It's the first room to the right of the stairs, miss. He is the only lodger I have, and you are his first visitor."

But the girl heeded not the words. A strange vision she surely was as she stood an instant outside his door, clad in costly velvet and rich furs. Then she softly turned the handle and entered.

He did not hear her. He had thrown himself upon his sofa and buried his head in its cushions. He was so still, so motionless, she thought he must be sleeping.

She swiftly crossed the room, and laying her hand on his shoulder, called his name.

"My God!" he cried, and would have started to his feet, but she held him back, falling on her knees beside him.

"Chester," she pleaded, "you would not come to me. My pride is less than yours, my love greater. I have come to you. Did you think my heart uttered the unworthy words for which you have punished me all these years? I have tried to find you so long—so long and so hopelessly."

And she bowed her beautiful head and sobbed outright.

"Hush, dear, hush! You should not have come here, Marion. It might compromise you."

"Compromise me with my future husband? See, Chester," and she held up the hand on which gleamed the ring, "I have never accepted my freedom."

"My own brave girl," he said, his voice softening even while he girded himself up for the strength of which he stood in such need, "but the heaven you open for me can not be. I am foreman of the works where you saw me to-day, Marion. My knowledge and love of machinery stood me in good stead. I heard of this opening and secured it. Today I was adjusting some difficult piece of work I dared not trust to any workman. I am in receipt of a liberal salary, which I am laying aside, dear, living as poorly as I can, hoping one day to buy an interest in the business. One or two improvements I have made are rapidly attaining me the goal, but it is still far off. I can not ask you to wait, nor to forget the years of labor which have helped me to reach it."

"I have waited already too long, Chester," she whispered. "I'm ready now to become your wife."

His face grew deadly white.

"Oh, Chester," she said, "when I have so much money why are you so cruel and so proud?"

"I cannot go back to a life of ease and dependence," he answered, "even with you, dear love, to brighten it. Bless you for coming to me, Marion! Bless you for showing me all a noble woman can be! The memory of this hour will lighten all the future years."

"Chester, you do not understand me," she persisted. "I will forget that I have a single penny in the world except what you give me. I will share whatever home you will offer me—even this. For better, for worse, darling, we pledged ourselves as sacredly as though already we stood before God's altar. In God's sight I am your wife. I claim my right to share your dark days as well as those on which the sun of prosperity may shine."

He strove to answer, but his voice broke. She had conquered, but, woman-like, she gave him the glory of her victory as she sobbed out her happiness upon his heart.

A month later there was a quiet wedding, at which there were neither flowers nor bridesmaids nor music; but Marion Willoughby missed nothing. It was only after the ceremony had been performed that Chester showed her a document which had been his wedding gift from the firm he had served so faithfully, and which admitted him as junior partner from that date. But she smiled half sadly as she looked at it through a mist of tears.

"You said once, dear," she whispered, "that flowers to live needed sunlight. My darling, I had not then made the wonderful discovery that love made sunlight everywhere. With your heart for my home, be its outward adornment what it will, I envy no King his palace or Queen her throne."

THE MYSTERIOUS BOOTS.

"What's the matter with you, George? You look sick."

"I never was so 'broke up' in all my life."

The exclamatory ejaculation was addressed to a well-known New York merchant, a man of middle age and the husband of a wonderfully beautiful young wife, as he sat in the corridor of the West End hotel. It was late, and the friend who spoke was just returning from a caucus at the Pennsylvania club, where he and several other distinguished politicians and amateur statesmen had been trying to influence Mr. Philip Daly. The hour was exactly half-past 12. The second speaker continued, speaking less enigmatically:

"The bar is closed; have you anything in your room, old man?"

It was evident that the sick man was suffering from the effect of a mental shock of some kind. He was perfectly sober.

When they were seated together the merchant grew confidential, and bit by bit, to relieve his overburdened mind, he revealed one of the most curious family episodes that ever came to the personal knowledge of your correspondent. Henceforward the story will be told in the words of the mutual friend, who, since he finds that all the ladies in the house have been gossiping about the matter, feels justified in repeating the incidents with all the extenuating circumstances.

"When we sat down in my room," began the confidential friend of the elderly merchant, "my sad, distressed companion finally said: 'It was like this, you see. I can trust you with what to me is an awful secret.' I accepted an invitation some time ago from my friend Harry French, a very jolly fellow, to make a cruise in his yacht. A small party of clever men were to be aboard. I was glad to go—not that I love the sea, for I don't. Curse it, I hate it. But the novelty of the experience caught me, you know. I joined the pretty little steamer at New York, expecting to be gone a week at least. Let me think. Yes, that was last Wednesday. (Time has moved so rapidly in the last few minutes that I have to look it off to be certain I'm right.) We sailed early in the forenoon. Harry is a bold buccaneer, and we put out to sea at once. The water was very rough—ough! as rough as a country tin lantern. I was beastly sick for two days, but late this afternoon we spoke a pilot-boat bound inward. The skipper said he would land me at Sandy Hook wharf for a valuable consideration. I was rejoiced at the prospective end of my seasickness, and with considerable difficulty was transferred to the schooner. Blessed if I now remember how it was accomplished. I felt if I could only get my feet upon dry land again I'd be the happiest man in the entire universe. Alas! you behold me a miserable wretch, who, when you spoke to me, was contemplating suicide.'

"He thought I would speak, but I only looked very hard at him and kept silent.

"'About 9 o'clock we reached the Horseshoe and I landed at the pier,' my companion resumed, sighing heavily. 'The last train to Long Branch had gone. Still I didn't worry. I found a couple of strong railroad men who for $10 agreed to bring me down to Sea Bright on a handcar. These I hired and they did. I was right glad to get on, and anxious to see my poor, lonely wife, who I knew must miss me very much. To cut it short, I sprang out of the carriage here exactly half an hour ago. In my impatience I didn't wait to say a word to any of the 'regulars' who were moving toward the barroom for the final "ball," but I climbed the stairs to my wife's—our room. I knew the number well enough—198, on the third floor. I had gone to it many a time under less advantageous circumstances—for I was perfectly sober, as, I regret to remark, I am yet. Strange to say, I couldn't find the door. Then I back and followed up the numbers. Yes, they were all in regular sequence—194, 196, 198, but as there is a God above us, a pair of man's shoes sat in front of my door!'

"'I don't believe it,' I promptly interrupted.

"'But I saw them——'

"'You are grossly slandering a good woman; and the very circumstance that she is your wife, sir, does not justify——'

"'Don't lose your temper.'

"'How can I keep it when I hear a man that I have known fifteen years carelessly blast the character of a most amiable and virtuous woman? Now shut up and go to bed. You are either crazy or drunk, I don't which. Get out!'

"He moved toward the door, not because he was overawed, but with a buoyancy, a clearly defined sense of relief that his eyes—indeed, his whole manner—showed. Plainly as words his glide towards the hall said:

"'Perhaps I am wrong.'

"He got as far as the middle of the wide corridor. Then he came back just as I was about to close the room. His appeal was almost pathetic, as he stammered:

"'Will you come with me as far as my door? I'm a trifle uncertain of myself, as you say.' When I hesitated for a moment he added: 'You're a severe friend, and a candid one, but I forgive you. Only come with me.'

"The affair was none of mine, but as I was morally sure the merchant had mistaken some man's room for his, I finally consented to do a foolish act. I took his arm and we started. Turning a corner in the hall I indistinctly noticed that the husband peered forward, with something like the intensity that a hydrophobic patient stares at a bowl of water. What was he trying to find? Oh, yes, I forgot, the shoes. I chuckled at the laugh I'd have to myself about the matter.

"But, where was the room? I glanced at the nearest door. Odd numbers on the front of the house; even numbers at the back. Then his room faced the lawn in the rear of the hotel. Ah! we were 'getting warm,' as the children say. Here was No. 208; next was No. 204; then came No. 202; a stairway—lower—No. 200 was the first door; and 198 was the—good God, there were the shoes!

"I have them in my hands in a minute. Men's shoes, beyond a doubt—'tens' at least—and almost new, for I found the soles only slightly discolored. I turned to my poor friend, who sat, limp and drooping, upon a large trunk at the side of the door. His wife's trunk, as the full name on its end attested. Happy thought. Probably his thoughtful spouse had placed a pair of her husband's shoes outside to have them blacked for his use on his return. Noiselessly as possible I laid the shoes I held alongside one of my companion's feet. They were a five. This shoe would have fitted the Chinese giant or 'Uncle Bill West,' the blind orator of Ohio. By Jupiter, this was getting serious. It was a mean thing to do, but we both listened an instant at the door. Still as a vault! Evidently everybody in the room was asleep.

"I turned, and putting my hand as gently and as kindly as possible on my poor friend's shoulder, said in as calm a voice as I could command:

"'George, this is terrible. I am sorry down to the bottom of my heart. Come back to my room till we consider what is best to be done.'

"We retraced our steps silently. A vigilant night watchman passed on his rounds, but did not heed us. How could he know the anguish he was saving us? We were lights and livers? He couldn't, happy fellow. As we neared my door I had an idea. I sometimes have. Strange that neither of us had thought of a most reasonable explanation before. Of course the whole thing was clear now. Pshaw, what a brace of blockheads we were, to be sure. The season was gradually coming to an end; the hotel was thinning out, and Mr. Palmer, the ever thoughtful room clerk, had moved my companion's wife to a larger apartment at the front of the house. When I mentioned this to the suffering husband he clutched at the idea as a drowning man does at driftwood. Only a moment was he relieved, however, for he gasped the horrible words:

"'But the trunk?'

"That was a blow to my fine-spun theory, I had to admit. Still, I reasoned, the transfer of rooms might have been made late in the afternoon, and the overworked porters might not have been able to attend to the transfer of the baggage. I confess that I was unable to impart much enthusiasm to my consoling assurances.

"Clearly, there was one thing to be done. The husband must go down to the desk and ascertain if his room—his wife's room—had been changed since his departure. No; I couldn't go. Positively no! He must be diplomatic, too, I assured him, for his wife's honor depended on not awakening any suspicion at the desk. I still felt that there must be a clear way out of this tangle, but I couldn't see any daylight ahead. He argued with me again. The husband, not the friend, must go. Yes, I was firm on that point. I braced him up as well as I could to the top of the main stairway leading to the office. Then I waited. My friend was about as diplomatic as a Hollander. He walked up to the desk, and, glaring wildly at Clerk Ben Hays, demanded:

"'Why in the fiend's name did you move my room while I was away?'

"'Your room has not been changed, sir,' was the calm reply of the veteran clerk as he glanced over the rack on which the names are all carefully set down. 'Then he said "Front!" in a voice that made the colored porter on duty spring forward. Mr. Hays said to him in a matter-of-fact way:

"'Show this gentleman to his room.'

"I saw that a crisis had come. Stepping down the stairs I plunged into the thick of the contest. My friend, the husband, acted as though he would fall limp on the floor. Mr. Hays expected him to, evidently, for he whispered to the porter to take the guest's arm, but the husband wouldn't have it. He recovered himself and stormed like a tiger. He knew the way; didn't want anybody to show him to—to—his room. Hotel clerks were always impudent, he added.

"Mr. Hays, who has had thirteen years' experience at the Fifth Avenue hotel and West End, had seen such cases before. He knew the only way to manage a man under the circumstances was to let him alone. That's what he did. His theory worked liked a charm in this case, and making what apology I could for my now thoroughly-distracted companion, I began to navigate him toward the stairway. Now, I expect you to believe me when I tell you this staggering man was 'dead sober.' He hadn't had a drop in my room, because there's never any there. It don't last. Why, I actually thought I'd have to carry my friend, his legs doubled up so under the weight of his grief. God knows I pitied him.

"'What was to be done? I tried, again and again, to imagine myself in this awful predicament. Impossible. I must, of course, regard all that I knew and had seen as a sacred secret (though an unwilling confidence), that could not be dragged from me with heated pincers. It should die with me. But what next? That was the husband's place to decide, and his only.

"'Have you a pistol?' he finally asked.

"'Yes,' I answered reluctantly. I hadn't any real wish to be made an accessory to a murder before the fact, nor had I the heart to refuse a boon to a wronged and outraged friend. Anything I had in the world was at his disposal, and I said so.

"'We had reached my room for the third time. It was after 1 o'clock—nearer 2, in fact, as I found by looking at my watch. I got out the heavy weapon, examined it to see that it was properly loaded, and laid it on the table so that he could take it. He divined my mental reservation. He evidently believed that I shrunk from handing him the pistol about to be used in taking a human life. I'd crossed the Rubicon. I seized the heavy revolver, placed it in his hands, and with a rising heroic inflection, said:

"'Go and do your duty!'

"'The way in which the merchant handled the weapon satisfied me that he never before had had a pistol in his fingers. His first act was to place the butt against his breast and to bring the weapon to a full cock. Then his confidence grew stronger and his coolness increased.

"'Two o'clock had passed, and the enraged man certainly had a right to know the worst. I would stand by him to the last. I had gone too far to draw back now. Perhaps I could avoid bloodshed and scandal. I accompanied my unfortunate friend along the hall. We reached his door. There he sat the damning evidence of his wrong, innocent of conscious shame. How peacefully they rested upon the floor! Damn the shoes!

"'Changing the revolver to his left hand the afflicted husband knocked on the door in a timid, half-hearted fashion. Silence. No answer.

"'This gave him the courage of despair. He struck the door with the flat of his hand.

"'There was a noise within—considerable tumbling about the apartment, we were both sure. Finally a timid voice, but the voice of the wife, inquired:

"'Who is it?'

"'It is me!' was the fierce rejoinder. Brave hearts always cast grammar, like physic, to the dogs in moments of great personal self-control.

"'You, George?' exclaimed the inmate of the room. We both thought there was a tone of gladness in her voice as she added: 'Wait just a moment till I light the gas and I'll open the door.'

"'It was some time before the light gleamed through the transom. Matches are not always found where they are left. I know that myself. There was a rattling of the bolt, a chair was taken from under the knob, and I stepped aside as the door was opened.

"'"Why, you darling old fellow!" and she kissed him. "I'm ever so glad that you came back. I've really been lonely, and worried——'

"'"Henrietta!"

"'"Yes, George, dear."

"'The deadly husband of a minute before had looked about the brightly-lighted apartment without discovering any signs of a stranger's presence. He had adroitly slipped the revolver into his coat-tail pocket before he assumed in these words:

"'"Henrietta, my wife, will you answer one question?"

"'"Certainly." There was a tone of anxiety and fear in her voice, but none of guilt.

"'"Whose shoes are those?"

"'"Mine."

"'"Yours!" the husband fairly shrieked.

"'I didn't blame him, either. For the first instant I began to doubt her. Her explanation was so lame. I was moving away when her answer came.

"'"Yes, mine. I bought them, you jealous old goose. You want an explanation, but you don't deserve it. I read about some sneak-thieves at the Astor house and thought that if a sneak got into this house he would not try to rob a room if he thought a very big and fierce man slept within instead of a weak and defenseless woman. I drove down to the village Thursday and brought the largest pair of men's shoes I could find. I have placed them outside each night you've been away and I have rubbed off the polish in the morning, so as to fool the bootblack, you know. Good idea, wasn't it? And, forgetting her previous fit of annoyance, she concluded: 'You're a dear old fellow. Come to bed as soon as possible.'

"'The husband, a terror no longer, met me in the hall this morning. He looked sheepish enough, and his only words were:

"'Good idea, wasn't it?' These were her words, I believe."

Here the narrative ended abruptly.

This story ran through my mind as I was in the surf at the Hollywood sands this afternoon, and I had a narrow escape from drowning, the waves seemed so frolicsome—to wear a broad smile almost.

Telling Sherman's Fortune.

Mrs. Girard, niece of Gen. McCook, did the fortune telling in the gypsy tent of the late Garfield hospital fair in Washington. Gen. Sherman came along. Says the New York *Sun*:

"General," said the well made-up gypsy, studying the lines in his hand seriously, "you've had almost everything you deserve, but there are two things left for you to do."

"Yes! what are they?" asked he in his quick, jerky way, not yet recognizing the fortune-teller, who laughed until her bangles tinkled like little bells.

"Well, you've got to come back to Washington to live, and you must make an investment. I don't advise you to invest in real estate here, though it would be safe and a good one. No, invest in mining stock. Go out west and try a mine in Nevada."

The general looked at the gypsy with a quick, keen glance and the next moment exclaimed:

"Oh, you little wretch. I know you now. Alec McCook is your uncle. He's got a lot of shares, and he wants to sell it."

It was Mrs. Girard's turn to be surprised at this information. She declared that she knew nothing whatever of her uncle's mining stock, and that her fortune telling was the art of palmistry, learned of a Bohemian while abroad. But the general left the gypsy tent laughing and unconvinced, acknowledging that he had got his half dollar's worth of fortune in the fun. And Mrs. Girard said it was more difficult to tell Gen. Sherman's fortune because she knew all about him.

An Explanation.

"What makes you call Peabody Jamison 'the Evangelist?'" asked one traveler of another.

"Because he travels for a shoe-house."

"What's that got to do with it?"

"He assists in saving men's soles. See?"

Written for the Toledo Blade.

PARISIAN SKETCHES.

BY D. R. LOCKE.

NO. VIII.

FRENCH COOKING AND FRENCH HOUSEKEEPING.

French housekeeping is a thousand times more to be commended than French cookery, which is to say the French method of of getting food upon the table suits the Anglo-Saxon better than the food itself.

The French kitchen is a marvel of economy in space and completeness of fixtures. It may be at the top of the house or anywhere else, for it occupies very little room. I have seen a kitchen eight feet by nine in which the cook found ample space to do the work for a table of eighteen or twenty, and did it with twice the ease, apparently, that an American or English cook would in an apartment three times the size. The range on which the cooking was done was stowed away almost entirely in the wall; the wall space was occupied to the very ceiling with cunningly arranged drawers and cubbies, which contained implements and the tools of the craft, under which are the receptacles for provisions, meal, flour, and other regular every day stock in the way of provisions. It is all close, compact, and is economy itself, not only in room, but material consumed. Nothing is wasted. They have the skill to make the smallest amount of material go the very farthest, much farther than any people that I know of, who pretend to live at all.

NO WASTE.

To begin with, there is nothing wasted in the French kitchen or on the French table. In the kitchen stands the meat block on which everything in the way of flesh is prepared for the fire, and on the range is the stock pot, which is an adjunct to a kitchen which every American domicile should have as well.

THE UNIVERSAL STOCK POT.

The stock pot is nothing more or less than a porcelain kettle, larger or smaller, according to the size of the family, into which everything goes that is not used in its original state, as well as the remnants of everything that has once been on the table. Nothing which has the slightest suspicion of substance or nutriment in it escapes this pot. The scrapings from the meat block, the bones that come in the meat or poultry, the refuse, from the table, everything, all finds its way there.

It is constantly going, it is always on the range, and always boiling. All these odds and ends which in other countries are thrown away, are here converted into a rich broth, rich in nutriment and capable of being converted into anything.

Is a tomato soup desired? Into a pan is ladled so much of the "stock," which is the solid foundation of a soup, and to it is added the proper quantity of tomato and the condiments necessary to give it the flavoring desired. Is it mock turtle soup? The "stock," as in other cases, supplies the solid foundation. All soups find the bottom rock of their being in the stock pot, the rich liquid or semi-liquid that is stewing there forever, that is constantly taken from and replenished, furnishes the basis for not only the savory soups but for all the gravies, sauces, and other rich and toothsome dishes which must have substance as well as flavor.

Into this stock-pot goes, as I said, everything that has the nature of meat. The pieces left from the table, which are unfit to appear upon the table again in another form, the scrapings of dishes, the thousand and one things which hold fat or fibre, either naturally or by contact, this all of it goes into the stock pot, where the very last particle of nutriment is taken from it and made edible in the form of soups, gravies and sauces.

HOW THE FRENCH HOUSE-WIFE BUYS.

The French house wife is quite different from the American or English in other particulars. She is the most careful and particular buyer in the world. The lower and middle class wives do their marketing always, and it is not uncommon for the upper class women to do it, especially if their rank and money do not happen to correspond. When there is more rank than money, then her High Mightiness will see that in some way or another the frugality of the *bourgeoise* is imitated in her own household.

The French house-wife numbers the heads and stomachs that are to be at dinner, and then she purchases just enough for that dinner. In New York or anywhere else in America you hear this sort of conversation at the butchers:

Mrs. Blank—I want a nice roast.

Butcher—How much?

Mrs. B.—Oh, eight or ten pounds—it don't matter.

And then the butcher proceeds to cut off twelve or fifteen pounds, and as Mrs. B. has directed him to send it home and has gone away, he has his own way about weighing it, and it may be the fifteen pounds that he charges her for, or it may not. It is purely a question of his honesty.

Now Madam LaFarge, or madam whoever it may be, in Paris does nothing of the kind. For the number at her table she needs exactly four and a half pounds, we will say, and she wants just that amount, no more and no less. Then she selects the meat herself, and she sees it cut and weighed, and she weighs it again when it comes home to make sure that the butcher's scales have played her no trick. This is not is just what is needed for the meal, breakfast or dinner as it may be, and it will be a very queer thing if she does not make it fit the exigencies of the case.

The vegetables are purchased exactly in the same way, the amount apportioned to each one being provided, and no more.

Thus, you see, there is no waste, no remnants, to amount to anything, to go into the slop-bucket. She knows what the meal has cost her to a sou. And what remnants there are, are carefully cared for, and they come on the table again in some other shape, if possible, and if not, they go into the stock pot, where they yield something.

The servants are not permitted to feed themselves and waste or steal all they choose. Their meals are all prepared for them, and portions allotted for each.

Food costs in Paris, and the providers of it are careful as to the quantity consumed.

Now it may not be strictly necessary in America to exercise this care, for food is plentiful and cheap, but, after all, what is the use of wasting it? Out on the plains where to get a meal you must shoot a buffalo, you can't shoot a part of one, and when you have shot one you can only make one meal off of it, you can't carry the remainder with you, and if you could, it would spoil on your hands. One can understand waste under such circumstances. But because beef is only 18 cents a pound, instead of 40, is that any reason why you should cook twice what you need and waste the full half? Why should the table groan under a mass of food, the half of which cannot possibly be consumed, especially when the housewife herself or the cook may not the skill to convert this surplus into anything else, and that, as sure as fate, it finally finds its way into the slop-bucket? This is criminal even in a land of plenty like this.

There is but little that the French cook, or even the French housewife, cannot make edible and turn into palatable food for a French palate. It was the boast of a famous artist that, give him a pair of old cavalry boots and a few blades of grass, and he would make a palatable soup for a regiment. This was an exaggeration, but not so much as it looks. They do use everything. They bring upon the tables vegetables which in this country we only feed to cattle, and very excellent and savory dishes they make of them, by using quantities of other material. All of it is cheap, however, and they save any quantity of material which we either permit to go to waste or so use it that it yields no profit.

It would pay the United States to send over to Paris and import at least five competent cooks for each state in the Union, to instruct our wives and daughters in the art of saving in cooking, of utilizing waste material, material which we waste, and of making something out of what we count now as nothing. We are altogether too rich in food to be really prosperous. The waste in food generates waste in everything, and waste is our besetting sin.

MID-LENT.

Lent lasts 40 days during which the good Catholic in Paris as elsewhere dances not, neither does he play cards, or billiards, or do aught that may imperil his soul's salvation. That is he is supposed to do nothing wicked for 40 days, that period being a sort of general Monday's moral washing day in which the accumulated sins of the year is gotten rid of. But a Frenchman can't endure even the appearance of sobriety for 40 days. He must have a let up, a sort of wickedness after twenty days of mortification to enable him to go on with some degree of decency for twenty more. Lent makes very little difference in Paris, so far as amusements are concerned, for there are balls, concerts and everything else that is wicked during Lent the same is at all other times, but nevertheless Lent is taken as an excuse for the wildest carnival in the year.

Mid-Lent, the 21st day from the beginning, is made a festival of the wildest description. Labor is entirely suspended and day and night are both given over to unrestrained fun.

The delirium tremens commences about two in the afternoon. Enormous crowds of people congregate on the Boulevards, completely blocking them and compelling the trucks and omnibuses to choose other and less frequented streets to get to their destination. There appears in the throng, at first one at a time but later more frequently, men and women in fancy costumes with knapsacks, and wagons and carriages also filled with maskers appear on the streets. There are processions of mummers in all costumes on foot, on horseback and in wagons and cars, some few advertising dodges appearing, but the majority being innocent of device except that of amusement.

THE WASHERWOMEN.

Among the notable processions on this day is that of the *blanchisseuses*, or washerwomen of Paris, who turn out in full force, cars, omnibuses and cars, and a brave sight these knightesses of the paddle and soap pail make.

No matter what the costume may be their arms are always bare, and sturdy arms, arms like blacksmiths, they invariably show, in which they take much pride. The is no washing done in Paris the week of mid Lent. It takes all the first part of the week for the washerwomen to get ready for the procession and the ball that follows it at night, and all the rest of the week to get over the effects of the dissipation. And besides, it being a system of centuries that a washerwoman has the unquestioned right to wear during this week any article left with her to wash, people who have fine clothes prudently keep them at home soiled during the Mid-Lent week.

But after night-fall the carnival of fun really begins. Day-light is good for neither folly or wickedness, and as both enter very largely into the observances of Mid-Lent, night is the proper time for its development. The boulevards for four miles are crowded, the side-walks, as wide as they are, being not commodious enough to hold the throng, and the street itself being usurped. Crowds of men and women in masks, either pasteboard or silk, are hurrying hither and thither, indulging in all sorts of fantastic fun, men dressed as women and women dressed as men, predominating over the usual comic masks and costumes. You shall see a pretty girl of eighteen dressed in the most foppish male costume, even a false moustache disfiguring her pretty upper lip, while a portly old gentleman of six feet, high costumed as a fashionable lady, the fictitious lady leaning affectedly and walking mincingly on the arm of her fictitious cavalier. They enter the cafes boldly, the disguised woman ordering the refreshments and paying for them, smoking the while a cigarette and doing the like as naturally as is possible for a woman out of petticoats.

There are women dressed as soldiers, as sailors, as priests, as clowns, as knights of the time of the Louises, as everything under heaven that is possible, but women, the spirit of the night being to appear as far away as possible from what you are. There is a constant, everlasting, never-ending blare of trumpets, of fish-horns, of watchmen's rattles, of tin tamborines, of penny trumpets and everything else that can make a din or squeak or roar or a noise of any kind, for noise is a natural accompaniment of folly, and the more unearthly and unnatural it is the better, and more it revives.

Chaffing is incessent. Every masker has his or her mouth full of wit, and the unmasked spectators are expected to reply with ready repartee. A volley of constant exchanges of wit, sometimes good and sometimes not, are going on constantly on the whole line of the boulevards.

The cafes are, of course, crowded all the time, even the seats on the sidewalks being occupied, cold as it is March 1st. The flow of wine and beer is incessent, and the consumption of light lunches goes on everlastingly.

ON THE OTHER SIDE.

Over in the Latin quarter, where the students and grisettes herd, the fun waxes fast and furious. There is no restraint what ever there on the mirth of the occasion. They enter into it with an extravagance, a zest that can be evolved nowhere but in Paris. Everything is wild and extravagant. On the other side or the Seine the costumes are, as a rule, historically correct. If one is the costume of a gallant of the time of Louis XIV., it is correct as taken from the pictures, but in the Latin quarter that is burlesqued and made absurd, as is everything else. The point over there is to make fun the predominating idea, to sacrifice everything to the absurdity in the masses.

Of course the cafes were crowded with maskers and lookers-on, and very many curious scenes transpired.

The dancing gardens are thronged, as a matter of course, as no Parisian ever permits an opportunity for unusual merriment of this kind to escape him. The *Jardin Mabille* is gone, alas! much to the dislike of fast young Americans, but there are plenty of others where the dancing is unpaid for and consequently more genuine. The *Jardin Bullier*, with its acres of floor, and its thousands of lights, was crowded on this occasion to the point of suffocation. There were three separate orchestras playing at the time, and probably a thousand dancers, some in fancy and others in street costumes, on the floors at once, while every in

...and Con-
...the matters
...it is of especial
...l profession.

..., Jr., has written an excellent
...d treatise entitled, "Field Notes
Apple Culture," published by the
Orange Judd Co., 751 Broadway, N. Y. We
exhort all the readers of the BLADE inter-
ested in orchard work to procure this valu-
able little compend.

From D. Appleton & Co. we have Hon.
David A. Wells's "Study of Mexico," which
was first published in the *Popular Science
Monthly*, and now, with additions, put into
a volume. One cannot find, in such com-
pact form, so much interesting informa-
tion concerning our Southern neighbor as
is packed within the covers of this pretty
cloth-bound volume of 262 pages.

From G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York,
we have the last volume of their "Trans-
atlantic Series" of novels—"The Old Order
Changes," by W. H. Mallock, whose fame
as a writer has extended from England
until his circle of readers embraces as
many people, probably, on this side of the
water as at home. Paper, 50 cents.

"Accidents and Poisons" is an extremely
valuable little manual, published by Rand,
McNally & Co., Chicago, treating of the
best methods of saving life in accident,
and on common poisons and their anti-
dotes. A chapter is added on calisthenics
and the care of health. Paper, 25 cents.

"The Witching Time" is a volume of
sketches and tales for the year's end, by a
number of authors well-known in the
world of fiction, and especially appropri-
ate for winter evening reading. Price, 25
cents. Published by D. Appleton & Co.,
New York.

From the same house we have Hobart
Pasha's "Sketches From My Life," which is
in fact an autobiography of the brave and
true-hearted sailor. It is a pleasant book
to read, and there is much that will inter-
est and amuse in the sketches of adven-
ture and sport, as well as the stirring
events of the adventurous life of the au-
thor. A fine portrait is also given. In
paper, 50 cents.

"About Money" is a volume which takes
its title from the first of the ten papers of
which it is composed, written by the famed
author of "John Halifax, Mrs. Dinah Maria
Mulock Craik, and published by Harper
Brothers, New York. They are bright and
tender sketches, in essay form, and the
book will be hailed with delight by the vast
constituency of readers familiar with her
former works.

From Lee & Shepard, Boston, we have
Martin T. Bigelow's "Mistakes in Writing
English, and How to Avoid Them." It is a
very handy little treatise, useful to all
who teach, write or speak the English
language—which embraces everybody in
the United States.

Literary Notes.

Messrs Harper & Brothers will publish in
a few days a new book, by the author of
"John Halifax, Gentleman."

Zola, in his new book, has taken artist
life in Paris as his theme, the title being
"Christine, the Model."

Rev. J. M. Buckley, the well-known
Methodist editor and leader, has a new vol-
ume of travels in press (D. Lothrop & Co.)
entitled "The Midnight Sun, The Tsar and
The Nihilist."

Gen. Lew Wallace's "Ben Hur" is soon to
be published in Germany, having been trans-
lated by a Catholic priest living at Lafay-
ette, Ind., Gen. Wallace's home.

Karl Kron's "Ten Thousand Miles on a Bi-
cycle" will be ready for mailing in January.
His address is University Building, New
York, or Station D.

Messrs. Crowell & Co., propose issuing, as
a companion book to Mrs. Lydia Hoyt
Farmer's "Boys' Book of Famous Rulers,"
another volume by this popular author,
entitled "Girls Book of Famous Queens."

Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., announce that
the sixth thousand each of Mrs. Sarah K.
Bolton's "Poor Boys Who Became Famous,"
and "Girls Who Became Famous," is now on
press.

Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe and her home
in Hartford are written of by the Rev. Jo-
seph Twichell, of that city, in the *Critic*
(New York) of December 18. Mrs. Stowe
is in good health for a woman of 75, and
spends much time in the open air.

The New Year's *Wide Awake* will have a
long and readable Christmas story of Sarah
O. Jewett, entitled "The Christmas Guest."
To the same issue Henry Bacon makes a
quaint contribution to history in an article
under the title "The Doves of the French
Revolution." He accompanies the article
with a full-page picture.

R. Bently & Son have in press the second
volume of the late Prof. Max Ducker's "His-
tory of Greece," translated by Dr. Evelyn
Abbott and Miss S. F. Alleyne. It carries
the story from the death of Cimon to the
death of Pericles, beyond which the author
did not live to continue it.

A new work by Mr. Edward King, the
well-known American journalist, will soon
appear simultaneously in England and the
United States, so that the copyright in both
may be secured. It will be entitled "A Vene-
tain Lover," and will be a modern romance
told in blank verse and interspersed with
songs and ballads.

Prof. Piloy Earle Chase, of Haverford
College, whose death has just been an-
nounced, was one of the most accomplished
linguists in the country. He could readily
converse in eight different languages, and
he could with little difficulty read and write
a hundred more. But he did not give all
his attention to philology. He excelled as a
scientist, and received the Magellan medal
for a scholarly paper on magnetism and
gravity. He was one of the Board of Bible
Revisers whose labors were recently com-
pleted.

The report that a London newspaper was
to raise funds for Walt. Whitman and that
the old poet was poor caused that gentle-
man to say to a representative of the Asso-
ciated Press: "I have received many tokens
from English admirers and a number of
substantial gifts, and would gratefully ac-
cept more, but I am not so poor as some
people think I am. The one thing that an-
noys me most is the talk of the papers,
which are continually printing exagger-
ated reports of my alleged financial
straits. Say for me all these stories are un-
true."

To Explore the Heavens.

The colossal telescope for the Lick ob-
servatory in California will soon be com-
pleted and, when mounted, it is expected
that a great field for science will be opened,
by its wonderful glass, to the view of as-
tronomers. The ordinary telescopes for as-
tronomical observation have a magnifying
power of 200 diameters, and with them
the moon is to all appearances brought
within 1,200 miles of the earth. This
new telescope has a power of 3,600 dia-
meters, and is expected to bring the moon
to within 69 miles of us. In this manner
it will be possible to ascertain to a cer-
tainty whether that body is inhabited or
not. It is also expected that astronomers
will then be able to explain the enigmatical
features on Mars; the chaos of Orion will
be explored and perhaps an unseen uni-
verse opened to our gaze. Every advan-
tage of position will attend the mammoth
telescope. It will be placed on the Pacific
coast where the air is the clearest in the
world. Then resting on top of Mount
Hamilton it will be above the dense air
that lies heavy near the surface.

The Envelope Fraud.

A well-dressed man entered a Philadel-
phia hotel the other day, registered, en-
gaged a room, and then taking a sealed en-
velope from his pocket, handed it to the
clerk, saying: "There is a check in this
envelope for $500. I want you to put it
in your safe and keep it for me till Satur-
day. Don't give it to me before that time,
for if you do, I'll be sure to get it cashed
and spend it all." On the strength of this
he ran such a bill that the proprietor's
suspicions were aroused, and, after trying
in vain to get the stranger to settle up, he
had the envelope opened. The envelope contained
a piece of tissue paper. The fellow played
the game more than once in that city.

From "The New South."

COLUMBUS, MISS., Oct. 30, 1885.

DRS. STARKEY & PALEN:—The remarkable
success of your Compound Oxygen Treatment
in my mother's case induced me to adopt it in
my own. For more than fifteen years I have
been troubled more or less with *Dyspepsia*, and
for over six I have suffered intensely and con-
tinuously from Indigestion, Constipation and
Hemorrhoids. I had severe headaches almost
every week, and was compelled to use morphine
for relief from this, as well as purgatives for
the latter.

I have tried all the usual remedies for these,
but with only temporary relief, and my condi-
tion steadily grew worse. In July last I was
prostrated for ten days by an attack of hemorr-
holds of unusual severity. After partial recov-
ery I resorted to your Compound Oxygen,
which more than met my expectations. I have
no headaches, and no symptoms of Dyspepsia
of any kind. In a word, my restoration to
health I regard as complete.

Respectfully,
W. H. WORTHINGTON, Editor.

A volume of nearly 200 pages entitled "Com-
pound Oxygen, its Modes of Action and Re-
sults," will be mailed free to any address on ap-
plication to DRS. STARKEY & PALEN, 1529 Arch
St., Philadelphia, Pa.

THOUGHT IT WAS A GHOST.

A Twin Sister Mourned as Dead Reforms a Bad Brother.

Notwithstanding the fact that there is a
law requiring the closing of saloons on
Sunday, there is a certain place in South
Erie, the proprietor of which is not over-
scrupulous about such matters, and in a
quiet way allows the back door to open on
Sunday night. Last Sunday night the
room was filled with a company who were
quietly amusing themselves until, be-
coming somewhat muddled at a late hour,
they began to disperse, when a strange
apparation appeared. A woman, strangely
attired in black, came gliding in and, un-
invited, took a seat.

"Want do you want?" courteously in-
quired the saloonkeeper.

"Child of mortality, I want souls," she
replied, in hollow, sepulchral tones.

The half-drunken, awe-stricken by-
standers could stand no more, and rushed
out, leaving the perplexed proprietor in a
corner.

"Are we all alone?" the woman timidly
inquired, after they had left.

"We are all alone," was the reply. The
woman arose and removed her mask, re-
vealing a face of marvelous beauty.

"My God! Mary, have you risen from the
dead?" the saloon-keeper cried. The rest
of the story is soon told. Some years ago
a promising young man left his
country home to seek his fortune.
For a few months he wrote hope-
fully to his friends, but as the
months advanced these letters became
more brief, and finally ceased altogether.
Rumors came to the quiet farm-house that
he had fallen into bad company, and that
he was dissipated and going to ruin as fast
as the devil of drink could send him.
Friends wrote him letters expostulating
with him, but without avail, at last
Mary, his twin sister, could endure the
strain no longer, and sought him out. She
was the strange apparition that visited the
saloon. Somehow her brother had been
informed that she was dead, hence his sur-
prise when she removed her veil. The
conversation between the long separated
brother and sister seems to have made a
deep impression. He has promised her
that he will return to the old home, and
that he will not buy, sell or use anything
that can intoxicate as long as he lives.—
Erie Sunday Gazette.

THOUGHTLESS CRUELTY.

Parents Who Neglect to Properly Dress Their Children.

Comparatively few parents nowadays
would send their children out without
merino underwear or rubbers, as was com-
mon some years ago. Few would say it
was foolishness or extravagance to protect
the extremities, or advocating "hardening"
their little ones by insufficient clothing.
Fewer still, probably, would insist on chil-
dren getting up before they had their sleep
out, or eating fat meat or scraps which the
parents were too dainty to eat. But there
is a species of cruelty which I fear has not
entirely died out. I refer to overheated
living rooms and cold sleeping rooms. Pa-
rents have a stove put up in their own
chamber as early as November, but a stove
in a child's room is, to many, a preposter-
ous idea.

How do children take it? Not half
enough credit has been given to the child
martyr spirit. Oh, we get used to be not
warm; we're nothing but children. It
would cost money to have fire in our
rooms. We ought to try and save money,
for we're nothing but trouble and expense,
anyhow."

The sitting room, kitchen, dining room
and school room are stifling hot. The lit-
tle frames are forced to accommodate
themselves to the unnatural atmosphere
by day, but at night the very entrances into
their sleeping apartments, often many de-
grees colder than the outside air, is enough
to strike a chill to the stoutest heart. Then
think of undressing and washing in such a
medium! Is it any wonder that in winter
so many children dread to go to bed, or,
once in bed, to get up? Parents cannot
afford to heat their children's rooms they
should show their practical sympathy by
going without heat themselves.

But, after all, stoves cost less than coffins
any day. Coal is not so expensive as med-
icine. You buy a handsome wrap for Jen-
nie, to be worn a few times, and think
nothing of it. That wrap would be just
as comfortable, and the rest of the new
one would keep her warm all the time.

Have a uniform heat through all the liv-
ing rooms. Put plenty of warm clothing
upon your children's bodies by day and soft
woolen blankets upon their beds at night.
Keep their bodies warm externally, and
they will not need to breathe such hot air
at any time. Have great plants all
through the house. It is now known that
the temperature of a dwelling can
be regulated in this way, living plants
actually imparting oxygen and moisture
to the atmosphere. Plants are particularly
corrective in their influence when dry fur-
nace heat must be depended upon. The
fresh vegetables which the parlor ones are in-
jurious is exploded. It has been proved
that they are positively beneficial, particu-
larly in case of invalids and consumptives.

If a room is warm enough to sustain
plants it is warm enough to live and sleep
in. If it is too cold for plants it is too cold
for human beings; if too hot for one too
hot for the other.—*Philadelphia Press.*

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

Beware of Imitations.

Imitations and counterfeits have again
appeared. Be sure that the word "Hors-
ford's" is on the wrapper. None are gen-
uine without it.

A Swelled Head.

The Washington correspondent of the
New York *World* says:

Only the great Presidents, the men who
have a place in history, have been able to
retain their simplicity of character and
naturalness under the artificial stimulus of
the life at the White House.

Mrs. Cleveland had the repute of being
a stuck-up woman before she went into the White
House, but he shows signs of succumbing
to the terrible disease of the swelled head.
If this were not true, would he not consult
more with the leaders of his party? Would
he not occasionally cease to regard his
Cabinet as seven confidential clerks?
Would he not cease to regard criticism of
himself and his administration by the lead-
ing Democratic papers of the country as
having some better motive than disap-
pointed personal ambition? The Cleveland
of 1880 was a humble torch-bearer in a
Hancock parade in Buffalo.

To rise in the time he has to the position
he now occupies is sufficient to turn a
stronger head than his. Still, the Presi-
dent has the reputation for common
sense. May it not tell him in time that the
flatterers constantly poured in his ear by in-
terested courtiers is not good for the head?
The wholesome tonic of occasional truth
should be welcomed joyfully by him. The
President has yet two years to inaugurate
more great reforms and to make a record
for his administration. If he will only
place himself in close relations with the
leaders of his party he may yet accomplish
something, so long as the President cannot
afford to heat their children's rooms they
should show their practical sympathy by
going without heat themselves.

But, after all, stoves cost less than coffins
any day. Coal is not so expensive as med-
icine. You buy a handsome wrap for Jen-
nie, to be worn a few times, and think
nothing of it. That wrap would be just
as comfortable, and the rest of the new
one would keep her warm all the time.

—For Throat Diseases and Coughs, BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES, like all really good things, are frequently imitated. The genuine are sold only in boxes.

Smoking and Heart Disease.

In a report by Dr. Frantzel, of Berlin, on
immoderate smoking and its effects upon
the heart, it is stated that the latter show
themselves chiefly by rapid irregular pal-
pitation of the heart, short breath, languor,
sleeplessness, etc. Dr. Frantzel says that
if the causes of these complaints are in-
quired into, it is generally found that the
patients are great smokers. They may not
smoke cigars rich in nicotine, but full-
flavored cigars, imported from the
Havanas. Smoking, as a rule, agrees with
persons for many years, perhaps for 20
years and longer, although by de-
grees cigars of a finer flavor are
chosen. But all at once, without
any assignable cause, troubles are exper-
ienced with the heart, which rapidly in-
crease, and compel the sufferer to call in
the help of the medical man. It is strange
that persons consuming cigars of ordinary
quality, even if they smoke them very
largely, rarely are attacked in that way.
The excessive use of cigarettes has not
been known to give rise to similar trou-
bles, although it is the cause of complaints
of a different nature. It is astonishing to
find how many persons with advancing
years discontinue smoking. A fatty
affection of the heart has caused them to
abjure the weed. In such cases the patient
has found the best cure without consulting
the medical man.

A Deep Mystery.

Wherever you are located you should write to
Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, and receive free,
full information about work that you can do
and live at home, making thereby from $5 to
$25 and upwards daily. Some have made over
$80 in a day. All is new. Hallett & Co. will
start you. Capital not needed. Either sex.
All ages. Noonan of us can tell people have ever
made money so fast heretofore. Comfortable
fortunes await every worker. All this seems a
deep mystery to you, reader, but send along
your address and it will be cleared up and
proved. Better not delay: now is the time.

TALES OF LOGAN'S LIFE.

His Fondness for Outdoor Sports—How He Gave Grant a Start—A Sorrowful Christmas.

Gen. Logan was always fond of outdoor
sports. He was an admirable horseman
and swordsman, and knew how to handle a
rifle. But he was the last man to brag of
his strength or skill. When down at the
Hot Springs of Arkansas a few years ago,
trying to throw off a particularly severe
attack of rheumatism, he astonished the
pistol experts of that pistoling country.
On one occasion a dozen young men were
shooting from the piazza of the general's
hotel at a bottle laid on the broad crotch of
a distant tree. The bottle was round. Un-
less it was hit plump in the middle it spun
round and round like a top. The young
men were good shots, but how and then
they would miss the somewhat difficult
mark. Then the invalid Senator would
chaff them. The young men finally became
irritated, and asked the general if he could
improve upon their skill. After a little
more chaffing the general said: "I'll tell
you fellows what I will do. There are
twelve of you, but I'll promise you each a
box of cigars every time you hit the bottle
if you'll promise a box every time I hit it."

The boys accepted the proposition in-
stantly.

"I'll shoot first, and if I hit I'm to shoot
again and again until I miss."

They had no objection, so the general
fired twelve consecutive shots, each time
breaking a different bottle, while the young
men's eyes opened wider and wider.

"Do you want any more?" he asked after
the twelfth shot.

"No," said the young men hastily, "I
guess not."

"You can send those twelve boxes to my
room whenever you are ready, gentlemen,"
said the general, as he lounged away.

"Some day, when I have more leisure, I
will give you an hour's instruction in tar-
get-shooting."

But the boys never held him to his prom-
ise. They paid their bets, however.

AMATEUR THEATRICALS.

The General always had a passion for
amateur theatricals. He did not often at-
tend the theatre, for he was not a man of
amusement, and never went unless there
was a tragedy on the boards. He was fond
of reading plays to his friends, and had fre-
quently taken part in private dramatic en-
tertainments. In 1875, while he was suf-
fering an attack of the disease from which
he died, he wrote a play entitled "The Ad-
ventures of a Congressman." After he re-
covered it was produced at his boarding-
house, himself taking the chief character,
while in the cast were Mrs. Dr. Woodworth,
the wife of the then supervising surgeon of
the Marine Hospital service, and Mr. Wins-
low, formerly President of the Scandina-
vian National bank, of Chicago. The suc-
cess of the play encouraged him to a sec-
ond attempt, and he produced another lit-
tle drama of army life, which has been pre-
sented by the Grand Army posts in Wash-
ington and elsewhere.

CORRESPONDENTS NEVER NEGLECTED.

Gen. Logan's correspondence was proba-
bly greater than that of any other man in
public life. Besides Beach Taylor, who
had been his private secretary and trusted
adviser for years, he had Albert Hall, a
young stenographer, to whom he was
much attached. Both were kept constantly
busy keeping up with the general's corres-
pondence. He was personally known all
over Illinois, and his correspondence from
that state alone was, it is estimated, suffi-
cient to keep one man busy in attending to
it. Then he was extremely popular with
the ex-Union soldiers. He was looked up-
on by them as their special friend and
champion, and the soldier branch of his
correspondence was very large. From
soldiers, white and black, were wont to
call upon him to see about their pensions
and to attend to their wants at the nation-
al capital. Gen. Logan never neglected
any of his correspondents. During the last
session of Congress the smallest number
of letters that reached Sen. Logan through
the Senate postoffice in any one day was
170, and the number frequently ran as
high as 225 or 230. A reporter was told
that the average number of letters
through that channel was about 200.

NOT ACQUAINTED WITH PARLIAMENTARY RULES.

Sen. Logan, though a diligent and earnest
public servant, paid but little attention to
the details of parliamentary methods. He
was not familiar with the rules, and rare-
ly ever knew the status of his own bills
on the calendar. His time, perhaps, was
so engrossed with the many important
matters intrusted to him and with his cor-
respondence that he had no opportunities
for familiarizing himself with parliament-
ary details. When he wished to pass a
pending measure he would ask to take it
up, and it irritated him to have the point
raised that any rule conflicted.

FEARFUL OF THE WORST.

It was a sorrowful Christmas for Gen.
Logan's family. Just before the startling
change was noticed by Mrs. Logan, and
while the church bells were ringing their
merry early morning summons to the
faithful, she penned the following to Miss
Kate Field. It shows her thoughtfulness
for others even in the midst of her anxiety,
and by the phrase, "Should I keep him,"
tells how deep was her concern Christmas
morning:

CALUMET PLACE, Dec. 25.—4 a.m.—*My Dear
Friend:*—My dear husband is so ill that I shall
be unable to receive New Year's. Should I keep
him and he improve rapidly it will be many
days ere I can leave him even for an hour. He
is desperately ill, and I am most unhappy, and
only stole this moment while he is sleeping to
tell you how sorry I am not to have the pleasure
of lunching with me. Hope to at some time
in the near future. I have kept these vigils
every night since the 17th, my dear boy on a
couch near me to rise at a moment's call, dear
Dolly and Will taking the morning while I rest
a little. Affectionately, MARY S. LOGAN.

HOW LOGAN GAVE GRANT A START.

An Illinoisan tells the following story of
an event familiar to many Springfield peo-
ple. In the early days of the war Logan
was at Springfield, when a Mr. Grant came
to him to tell his troubles. This Grant was
a tanner, and, having an idea he could
fight a little, had raised a regiment and
brought it to Springfield where it was in
camp. But the men had not been sworn
in, and finding it a harder business than
they expected, principally on account of
poor beds, they were going to back out and
go home. This was Mr. Grant's trouble.
He could not see how he was going to get
along. It looked as though he would have
to go back to his tan-yards. Perhaps Lo-
gan could help him.

"Can't you talk to them?" said John.

"No," said Grant.

"I can," exclaimed Logan. "Call them
together." They had all heard of him.
He made a speech two hours long. He told
them all about our Government and how
the war commenced. The sweat rolled.
He jerked off his coat and handkerchief.
You never saw a man work harder in your
life. He related stories which made them
laugh, and then he described a soldier's life
in such beautiful language that one would
think no other life had so many charms.
When he got through the men were im-
patient to be sworn in for fear they might
lose the chance. This was the way Mr.
Grant got a start."

—Captain Mitchell, of the bark Antoine
Sala, New York and Havana trade, came
home in May, entirely helpless with rheu-
matism. He went to the mountains, but
hearing no benefit at his wife's request
began to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. He im-
mediately began to improve; in two
months his rheumatism was all gone, and
he sailed in command of his vessel a well
man. Hood's Sarsaparilla will help you.
Sold by all druggists.

Ankles Cold as Ice.

Woman's neck is well protected by a
band of fur. Her wrists are also adequate-
ly clothed. But her shoulders and arms
are hidden only under thin fabric, which
looks thick; but if she is just a bit in-
clined to plumpness she won't amplify her
figure at those sections, even by an eighth
of an inch of wadding. Her corsets keeps
off the cold from the level of the arm pits
to the hips. Thence down to her knees
she is fairly warmed by petticoats. But
from the knees to the feet silk stockings
are the only coverings, and at times, when
a cold blast sweeps under her skirts,
her ankles feel like wooden drum-sticks
for all the life that is in them. Her fur
trimmed jacket has the appearance of per-
fect comfort, however, and as cut is the
newest in the market. Therefore she is
happy.

Rheumatics Read and Heed.

MR. HELPHENSTINE:

I am extremely thankful to inform you
that Durang's Rheumatic Remedy has
cured me of an obstinate attack of rheu-
matism after all other means and remedies
had failed. In the rapid progress of medi-
cal science nothing has been discovered
which possesses such marvelous curative
effects as your Durang's Rheumatic Reme-
dy. I've known some of the most intrac-
table cases cured by the use of a single
bottle.

Wishing you great success, I remain ever
your grateful friend,

J. PEMBERTON, M. D.,
Atlanta, Ga.

We will state that the writer of the above
is one of the most thorough gentlemen in
the state of Georgia, and his word in At-
lanta is as good as gold.—*Ed. Sunday Her-
ald, Washington, D. C.*

Sold by all druggists. Write for free 46
page pamphlet to H. L. Helphenstine,
Druggist, Washington, D. C.

OUR WEEKLY SALAD.

SOMEBODY who has traveled extensively
has been talking in a Denver paper about
American women who, he declares, are the
neatest the world over. As a rule they
like to be neat and clean for the comfort
of it, though they are sometimes found to
become slatterns when placed where they
believe themselves unknown, and therefore
free from criticism. He goes on to say:

"The habit of neatness or its opposite is
an interesting study in women. The
characteristic naturally exists just the
same in men, but the circumstances gov-
erning their lives are such as do not bring
out this phase in such pronounced fashion.
I don't doubt but that some of the greatest
slatterns on earth are men, but they are
seldom found out, you know. If you are
sufficiently intimate with a gentleman to
gain access to his apartments you will soon
have a very excellent method of judging of
his habits. If you find his brushes full of
hair and lint, his towels and soiled clothes
kicking about everywhere, with a bowl of
dirty water always on his washstand, you
may easily judge that he will go out in the
street with grease spots on his clothes and
half-soiled linen on.

ALL things are fallible, even those upon
which we are most accustomed to depend
with the greatest confidence in their free-
dom from error. It is said that when the
first unabridged edition of Webster's dic-
tionary appeared, a copy was sent to Caleb
Cushing, who wrote a criticism upon it, in
the course of which he said that for its size
it had a few errors, but never to be expected.
When asked by its editors to explain his
meaning he marked 5,000 errors in his
presentation copy and sent it back to them.
Imagine their chagrin, when they had sup-
posed the work nearly or quite faultless.
It only goes to show how easy it is to make
mistakes even with the best of intentions
to carry one forward.

THE war on the low corsage has begun
in the East. The New York *Herald* is pros-
ecuting it vigorously. It remarks, in
speaking of several notable society balls
soon to occur, that "upon these occasions
a number of young ladies will make their
debut—that is to say, they will for the first
time in their lives appear in low-necked
dresses. For years we have been care-
fully educated for this very important
epoch, and it is right and proper that the
attending circumstances of the period
should be such that they may in after
years look upon 'the night of the first ball'
with feelings of pleasure. One of
the most annoying features of the
debut is the ball dress. Only women know
how difficult it is to learn the mystery of
managing a train, of appearing at ease in
the bodice or lack of bodice; more can be
said by the men. It is related that one
young girl wept bitterly on the night of
her debut, because the very low bodice her
mother compelled her to wear offended her
sense of modesty. The countenances of
more than one young girl have been suf-
fused with blushes for the same reason
how many girls wear low waists by pref-
erence; a silly mother and a vulgar dress-
maker are the real culprits. No jewel so
becomes a girl as modesty. Spare your
daughters, fond mothers; if ball rooms are
slave markets, they are at least in Christen-
dom."

TO ALL of which we say, amen! A sym-
pathetic beholder can always note the evi-
dences of shame in young girls, who, on
taking their seats after a dance, strug-
gle to make the shoulder-straps cover
their nakedness by spasmodic upward
jerks of first one and then the other shoul-
der. One feels sorry for the innocents,
who feel as if they had been required to
enter the ball-room with nothing on above
their corsets. There was much truth in
the dictum of the lady who once said, "A
ball-room nowadays is a place only fit for
women."

THERE is another feature which is
even worse. Young men will talk; and
when the young ladies are so arrayed—or
disarrayed—that one of the aforesaid
young men can see the inside of her waist-
band by peeping over her shoulders, you
may be very certain, O mothers, that the
physical points of your daughters will be
discussed among these young men in much
the same manner that they would discuss
the good points of a horse. It is a burning
shame to expose a young girl to this sort
of coarse remark.

IN fact, the tendency of society, when it
took up the *decollete* corsage and made it
fashionable, was too much like that of the
modern stage, in its relation to women.
There is a demand for the semi-nude in
spectacular presentations and in the
regular ballet. The likenesses of many of
the leading actresses and those of the first
ladies of the operatic stage—thousands of
which are seen in the windows on the pub-
lic streets—are suggestive in their *decollete*
dress, the exposed arms, the rounded
shoulders, the pose of the head, and the
expression of the eyes, of a certain unmis-
takable voluptuousness. Let us not carry
the same tendency into social life; and if
we find such a tendency there, let us
check it.

Rules for Family Peace.

1. We may be quite sure that our will
is likely to be crossed to-day, so prepare
for it.

2. Everybody in the house has an evil
nature as well as ourselves, and, therefore,
we are not to expect too much.

3. To learn the different temper of each
individual.

4. When any good happens to any one to
rejoice at it.

5. When inclined to give an angry an-
swer to count ten.

6. If from sickness, pain, or infirmity
we feel irritable, to keep a very strict
watch over ourselves.

7. To observe when others are so suffer-
ing, and drop a word of kindness and sym-
pathy suited to their wants.

8. To watch for little opportunities of
pleasing, and to put little annoyances out
of the way.

9. To take a cheerful view of every-
thing.

10. In all little pleasures which may oc-
cur to put self last.

11. To try for the soft answer that
"turneth away wrath."

12. When we have been pained by an
unkind word or deed to ask ourselves,
"Have I not often done the same and been
forgiven?"

13. In conversation not to exalt our-
selves, but to bring others forward.

14. To be very gentle with the younger
ones and treat them with respect, remem-
bering that we once were young.

15. Never to judge one another, but to
attribute a good motive when we can.

16. To compare our manifold blessings
with the trifling annoyances of the day.

Hygiene of Vegetables.

"Some person, we know not whom, had
brought together the following in relation
to the action of vegetables on the human
system. There is no doubt but proper diet
is generally better than drugs:

Spinach has a direct effect upon com-
plaints of the kidneys.

The common dandelion, used as greens,
is excellent for the same trouble.

Asparagus purges the blood.

Celery acts admirably upon the nervous
system, and is a cure for rheumatism and
neuralgia.

Tomatoes act upon the liver.

Beets and turnips are excellent appe-
tizers.

Lettuce and cucumbers are cooling in
their effects upon the system.

Onions, garlic, leeks, olives and shallots,
all of which are similar, possess medicinal
virtues of a marked character, stimulating
the circulatory system, and the consequent
increase of the saliva and the gastric juice,
promoting digestion.

Red onions are an excellent diuretic and
the white ones are recommended eaten raw
as a remedy for insomnia. They are a tonic
and nutritious.

A soup made from onions is regarded by
the French as an excellent restorative in
debility of the digestive organs.

When the Earth Will Stop Revolving.

A problem which is attracting to its
study astronomers, relates to the earth as
a time-keeper. We measure time by divid-
ing either the period during which the
earth revolves around the sun, or that in
which it turns on its axis. By the first
method we measure a year; by the second
a day. The earth, according to some
astronomers, is losing time. Through two
causes, the sun's attraction and the
friction, so to speak, of the tides, the earth
each year revolves more slowly on its axis.
The speculative question which these
astronomers are discussing is whether in
the end the earth will stop its revolution
upon its axis and will present always the
same face to the sun. When that event
occurs there will be perpetual day in one
part of the earth and perpetual night in
another. But there is no occasion for im-
mediate alarm. The rate at which the
earth is supposed to lose time only shortens
the year by half a second in a century.
There are more than 13,000,000 seconds
in a year. Therefore, if the earth ever
does cease to revolve on its axis, it will be
more than 6,000,000,000 years before it
will stop.

To Weak Men

Suffering from Nervous Debility, Early
Decay, Loss of Vitality, Weakness of Body
and Mind, etc., I will send you a valuable
treatise containing full particulars for cer-
tain restoration to health and manhood
free of charge. A reliable home cure. Ad-
dress Prof. F. C. Fowler, Moodus, Conn.

The Camp Fire.

[Contributions from the old soldiers are earn-
estly solicited by the editor of the CAMP FIRE.
No matter if you cannot write a lengthy history
of your lives, for we much prefer short, lively
sketches, personal and historical. All communi-
cations will be attended to, and no contribu-
tor will be overlooked. We do not want any-
thing from the records, as we are supplied with
a full set.]

KINGDOM COMING.

Say, darkies, has you seen my massa,
Wid the mustache on his face?
He come along dis morning
As dough he's gwine to leave de place.
He saw de smoke way up de river,
Where de gunboats lay;
He took his hat and left mighty sudden,
I speck he's runned away.

CHORUS—O, massa run, aha!
De darkey stay oho!
It must be now dat de kingdom's coming
In the year of jubile.

He's six feet one way, four feet tudder,
And weighs three hundred pounds;
His coat's so big he can't pay de tailor—
Den it don't go half way round.
He drills so much, dey call him Cap'n;
And he am so very tan,
I speck he'll try to fool dem Yankees
And say he's contraban'.

Dis darky gets so very lonesome
In de cabin on de lawn;
He moves his things to massa's parlor,
To keep 'em while he's gone.
There's wine and cider in the cellar
And de darkies dey'll have some;
I speck it will be confiscated
When de Linkum soldiers come.

W. H Norton, Co. G, 15th N. Y. Cav., of
Yarna, N. Y., says: "I was wounded at the
battle of New Market, Va., and captured
and taken to Andersonville, being in that
pen from June until September. I got so
weak that I had to crawl on my hands and
knees. While we were being counted off
to be put into the pen, I was unable to
stand up, and the old traitor, Capt. Wirz,
swore that he would shoot me if I did not
stand up. So two of my comrades held me
up and probably saved me, for after that,
I saw him shoot a prisoner who had been
carrying out a dead man. It took four to
carry out one dead man, and I was one of
the four. Only three reached the pen
again.

Tobacco for Soup Bone.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE:—All ex-prisoners
know what that means. In the summer
of 1864, the rebels gave us a little beef, or
mule meat—I didn't know which it was—
and it was cut up pretty small to make it
go around, and to those who got the bone
it was bone without any meat on it. But
we would chew and scrape until we got
every bit of the juice out, and then we
would take the bone and go around hol-
lowing: "Who has got tobacco for a soup
bone?" Readers, you can imagine what
kind of soup it would make after I had
chewed it for about an hour or so, and
then laid it, not in a cupboard or on a plate,
but on the ground right by my side to
watch it, for fear some one might steal it,
until I got a little rested, and then I would
pick it up once more, and go at it again,
and give it a verse cleaning and scraping
than ever, until I was satisfied that there
was nothing left but the bone. Then I
would trade it off for tobacco, if I could; if
I couldn't, I would keep it until I could get
a little wood, and then I would burn it to
make it tender, and eat it myself. Yes, sir,
I would eat almost anything to keep my
stomach from growing together. We
camped at a place where rebel cavalry
had been for some time, and the
manure was three or four inches deep, and I,
with the rest, went to scratching after
grains of corn, like a flock of hens, and we
ate what we found. While scratching for
corn, I found a plug of tobacco pretty well
soaked with—well, I won't say what, for I
did not know what it was there, but I
chewed it and thought it was good, too.
Some of the boys said that they would not
chew such stuff as that, but when I offered
them a chew, they took it. I hope that
this will stir up the four that tented with
me from December, 1864, to June, '65, and
that they will write to the CAMP FIRE and
tell me how they liked that tobacco and
corn. I would have liked it better, if there
had been a little sugar in it, but I expected.
When we were exchanged and returned to the
front, I, with many others, fell in, not for roll call in
Andersonville, but to help keep the CAMP
FIRE burning.—WM. P. DEBEVOISE, Co. E,
135 O. V. I., Newark, O.

The Negro and the Bees.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE:—I noticed in the
BLADE of November 25, a letter from a
member of the 14th Ohio Infty. It is the
first I have seen that old brotherly
regiment since the war. It may be possi-
ble that he is the same man with the brass
horn who took part in a little circus we
had down in Tennessee, one day during
the war. The brigade halted and stacked
arms in a lane, the 10th Kentucky being
directly in front of a farm house, and the
14th Ohio next down the road. The sol-
diers were lying around in the fence cor-
ners, waiting for marching orders. An
old gentleman came out of the house with
every indication of being in an ill humor.
He talked loud and excitedly, boasted that
he had four sons in the rebel army, and he
wished to God he had 40 more,
and if he had, he would send
every one to fight for the
South. Now I was always opposed to
pillaging, but that kind of argument gave
me an appetite for honey, and I saw a long
row of bee-hives in the back yard. With-
out saying anything to my comrades, I
stepped over where the hives were. By
thumping on them with my finger, I dis-
covered one that was filled with honey.
Just then a member of the 14th Ohio brass
band, with a large horn on his arm, hap-
pened to be passing on the outside of the
fence opposite the hive. I spoke to him:
"Hello, partner, help me get this hive over
the fence and we will have some honey."
He stopped and I lifted the hive and placed
it on the top rail of the fence. He took
hold to help me over, when the bees came
out and the bees stung his hands, and he let it fall.
It went on his side of the fence, jarring out
a gallon or two of bees directly on his feet.
They raised in a perfect cloud, completely
covering him. I dodged back in some
plum bushes where I was safe from the
bees, and where I could enjoy the fun. He
started across a large wood pasture, swing-
ing his horn in one hand and fighting bees
with the other, and as far as I could see
him, he was running. But while I was
laughing at him, a negro came around the
corner of the fence. I do not know wheth-
er he saw the bees or not, but he walked
up among them as deliberately as if they
were only so many gnats. In two seconds
there was at least a quart of bees in his
wool, and then the performance began. I
can see it all as plain as though it were
but yesterday. Sometimes even after I
have gone to bed, I happen to think of it
and get to laughing, and my wife
wants to know if I am going crazy.
Language fails me. I cannot describe it,
but it was the funniest performance I ever
saw. That negro got himself into more
ridiculous attitudes and changed from one
to another quicker than I ever saw any one
before. Although the poor devil was nearly
stung to death, I laughed until I was ac-
tually sore, and concluded that any man
that could not laugh at such a performance
was justifiable in committing suicide. But
the man with the bass horn, I have never
seen yet (but I hope of he is living, I
would like to hear from him. I want to
know when he stopped running. He surely
cannot have forgotten it. I think those
bees made a lasting impression.—C. HAMIL-
FIELD, Co. F, 10th Ky. Inf., Shepherds-
ville, Ky.

Our First Engagement.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE:—As I have never
heard anything from any of my regiment
since le

Question Bureau.

1. The true name and postoffice address must be given in all cases, but, when specially requested, may not be published.

2. No attention will be paid to mathematical problems, questions of grammatical construction, or inquiries regarding the reliability of individuals, firms or corporations.

3. Communications for this department must be written on a separate sheet, directed to the "Question Bureau," and contain not more than three questions. Do not ask a question and then proceed to argue that if we can answer it and it is considered of general interest, it will be answered. It is useless to request an answer in the "next issue." The Question Bureau is always full, and we are usually two or three weeks behind.

4. This department is not intended to settle party disputes or decide bets. Replies to questions are intended to be of general interest, and no one has the right to DEMAND a reply. Do not request an answer by mail.

5. No question will receive the SLIGHTEST attention unless the first and third rules above are STRICTLY complied with.

Disciples of Christ.

D. B., East Trumbull, Ohio:

As you have announced that there is a sect whose name is Disciples of Christ, you will please inform me where is one of their congregations, and where they teach their doctrines.

Churches of this faith are found in all parts of the United States. Their oldest literary institution is Bethany college, founded by Alexander Campbell, who for many years presided over it. Kentucky University at Lexington, Ky., and the university at Indianapolis, Ind., are flourishing institution. Besides these they have a number of colleges, academies and seminaries under their control, and also a number of periodicals. They are a missionary people, and have a general missionary society. The following, taken from the writings of Mr. Campbell, is a very good definition of their object and principles of the Disciples of Christ:

"That this society, formed for the sole purpose of promoting simple evangelical Christianity, shall, to the utmost of its power, communicate and impart such information, and such only, as exhibit a manifest conformity to the original standard, in conversation and doctrine, in zeal and diligence; only such as reduce to practice the simple original institution, as expressly exhibited upon the sacred page, without attempting to incuicate anything of human authority, of private opinion, or inventions of men, as having any place in constituting the faith, or worship of the christian church. They look for unity of spirit and the bonds of peace in the practical acknowledgment of 'one faith, one Lord, one immersion, one hope, one body, one God and Father of us all;' not in unity of opinions, nor in any unity of forms, ceremonies, or modes of worship.

"Every congregation chooses its own overseers and deacons, who preside over and administer the affairs of the congregation; and every church, either from itself or in co-operation with others, send out, as opportunity offers, one or more evangelists, to preach the word and to further those who believe, to gather congregations, and to extend the knowledge of salvation as far as their means extend. Baptism has no abstract efficacy; still to the believing penitent, it is the means of receiving a formal, declared, and open absolution, or release from guilt. Therefore, none but those who have first believed in Christ and repented of their sins, and have been intelligently immersed into his death, have the full and explicit testimony of God, assuring them of pardon."

Southern Missouri.

EDITOR QUESTION BUREAU:—"O. D. S.," in the BLADE of December 16, asks the general price of land in Howell county, Mo., or, more explicitly, what good stock farms of 160 acres or upwards can be bought for with from common to good improvements.

In reply, I would say that Howell county and all South Missouri is very diversified. Farms in the far-famed Howell valley, that are well improved, sell at from $10 to $40 per acre. Yet farms adjoining these same can often be had for $5 to $10 per acre. As a rule we say that improved farms are worth from $5 to $25 and unimproved lands from $2.50 to $10 per acre, governed in price by the character and quality of improvements and soil, and distance from railroad stations.

The Kansas City, Springfield & Memphis traverses the county 35 miles. It being the great trunk line from Kansas City to the Southeastern Gulf states, via Memphis and Birmingham, Ala. Howell county has no bonded debt, and but little floating debt. Taxes are low and will be kept so.

The Frisco road has purchased the line from Salem to Edna, which will doubtless be extended to West Plains the ensuing summer. The Iron Mountain road will also be extended from Poplar Bluff to West Plains next summer, giving ampler railroad facilities and competition. Owing to the configuration of the mountain region of southern Missouri, the cotton and other produce from the west part of Fulton, Baxter, Izard, Marion, and parts of other counties in Arkansas are hauled in wagons to West Plains for shipment. There will be 10,000 bales of cotton shipped from this point this season.

West Plains is the principal point of trade between Springfield, Mo., and Memphis, Tenn. The K. C., S. & M. railroad does all the business for South Howell county, and are very liberal with the patrons along the line, as they can well afford to be, as they do an immense business and have no competition.

There are several large ranches in Howell county, among which we note the following: Michael Brand, of Chicago..... 30,000 acres
Albert Crain, of Chicago..... 25,000 "
Mrs. C. D. Pratt, of Kansas City. 10,000 "
T. Benton Jr., of Boston..... 5,000 "
Mr. McDonnel..... 1,500 "
Col. P. P. Dobozy..... 1,500 "

There is a quantity of fine stock in Howell county, among which we note the fact of its increasing. These ranches afford a good market for all the grain raised in the county, and prices are as high as the Memphis market.

Published by request.

A Life on the Ocean Wave.

A life on the ocean wave,
A home on the rolling deep,
Where the scattered waters rave,
And the winds their revels keep!
Like an eagle caged I pine,
On this dull and lifeless shore,
O give me the flashing brine,
The spray of the tempest's roar.

Once more on the deck I stand
Of my own swift-gliding craft;
Set sail! farewell to the land!
The gale follows fair abaft!
We bound like a thing of life
O'er the curling, foaming brine
Like an ocean bird, our home
We'll find far out on the sea.

The land is no longer in view,
The clouds have begun to frown;
But with a stout vessel and crew
We'll say let the storm come down;
And the music of the gale shall be,
While the wind and the waters rave,
A life on the heaving sea,
A home on the bounding wave.

Nana Sahib.

A. B., Forrestville, Minn.:

Please tell me who and of what station was Nana Sahib.

Nana Sahib was the title of Dhundeo Punt, a Hindoo chieftain and descendant of the notorious Bajee Rao, who was born in 1824. When a little more than a year old he was brought to Bithoor, where Bajee Row, the chief of the Mahrattas, adopted him. On the death of Bajee in 1851, without heirs, the bulk of his estate in the neighborhood which had been bestowed upon him by the British during pleasure was declared lapsed to the East India company, as they had previously refused to recognize his inheritance of lands by adoption, and a pension of $450,000 a year granted to him and his family in 1818 was also stopped.

The Nana sent an agent to England to advocate his claims, but without success, and this supposed wrong he never forgave. He lived, however, in great apparent friendship with the English, and when the sepoy mutiny broke out in 1857 the English applied to him for a body of soldiers to guard the treasury at Cawnpore, which he immediately granted; but no sooner had the latter been concentrated in that place then he put himself at the head of the rebels and killed all the Europeans that fell into his hands, including a number of women and children. The English garrison at Cawnpore finally surrendered on the Nana promising to send them safe to Allahabad. They were permitted to embark, but immediately afterward fired upon, many being killed and the rest brought back to land. The men were put to death at once; the women and children after surviving nameless outrages, were massacred July 15, the day before Havelock arrived at Cawnpore, and their bodies were thrown into a well. Then Nana retreated to Bithoor on the 17th, whither Havelock pursued him, driving him out of town and dispersing his army. He soon collected another force, with which he followed Havelock. On August 16 Havelock defeated him again in a sharp engagement, but Nana again escaped, and for some time continued an active and harassing warfare, in June, 1858, he was chosen peishwa of the Mahrattas. His subsequent career it is difficult to trace. Long after the other leaders had submitted or been captured, he continued, with about 10,000 rebels, to infest the northern parts of Central India and the frontiers of Nepaul. It was reported that he died of fever. He was well educated and had polished manners.

Constitution of the United States.

S. A., Alton, Minn.:

1. Please tell me how many men drew up and signed the constitution of the United States, and give their names. 2. Can a lady vote for county superintendent at 18?

1. The Bureau has a number of inquiries of this kind on hand. At Washington's suggestion, a convention for the purpose of consulting on the best means of remedying the defects of the federal government was held at Annapolis, Md., in September, 1786. Only five states—Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York—were represented. John Dickinson was chosen chairman. They adjourned, after recommending the appointment of delegates to meet in convention at Philadelphia on May following. The report was adopted and transmitted to Congress. On February 21, 1787, a committee of that body, consisting of Dana, Varnum, S. M. Mitchell, Smith, Ewald, Carmichael, Irvine, N. Mitchell, Forest, Grayson, Blount, Bull, and Few, reported thereon, and as a result a resolution was adopted that a convention of delegates should be held in Philadelphia.

In accordance with this resolution the convention met in May, 1787, all the states being represented except New Hampshire and Rhode Island. The members who were most conspicuous as leaders in the convention were Randolph, Madison, and Mason, of Virginia; King, Gerry and Gorham, of Massachusetts; Gouverneur Morris, Wilson, and Franklin, of Pennsylvania, Johnson, Sherman and Ellsworth, of Connecticut; Lansing and Hamilton, of New York; the two Pickneys, of South Carolina; Paterson, of New Jersey; Martin, of Maryland; Dickenson, of Delaware; and Dr. Williamson, of North Carolina. After long and animated debates, the convention referred all propositions, reports, etc., to a committee of detail, consisting of Rutledge, Randolph, Gorham, Ellsworth, and Gouverneur Morris. The convention then adjourned, and ten days afterwards (August 6, 1787,) it met, and that committee reported a rough sketch of the constitution as it now stands. More than a year elapsed after the convention agreed to the constitution before the requisite number of states had ratified it. From the above, taken from the best authorities at hand, it will be seen that the constitution was not the exclusive work of any one man. Some authorities give Gouverneur Morris the entire credit.

Hydraulic Ram.

W. H. S., Maxwell, Neb.:

1. Please explain how the hydraulic ram is constructed, and how far will it raise water? 2. Why can't water be raised more than 33 feet by suction?

1. No satisfactory description can be given in the absence of cuts. Its object is to raise water without the aid of any other force than that produced by the momentum or moving force of a part of the water that is to be raised. The effect of its action is so great that the machine appears to act in opposition to the laws of hydrostatic equilibrium; for a moving column of water is made to overcome and move another column much higher than itself. The ram itself consists, independently of the cistern, of a pipe, which carries the water to the working part of the machine, or head of the ram. This portion is composed of a short tube, at the end and upper part of which are two valves—the ascension-valve and the stop-valve. The extremity of this tube is covered and a quantity of water is forced into the air-vessel. The compressed air in this receiver, reacting upon the surface of the contained water, closes the ascension-valve and forces the water up the ascension-tube. In the meantime, the stop-valve naturally opens again, and the same process is repeated. Hence the hydraulic ram, when once set in motion with a continual supply of water, will work by the momentum generated and destroyed for any length of time, if kept in repair. 2. Because of the pressure of the atmosphere.

Jackson and Benton.

G. S. N., Mores, Ill.:

Give particulars of the duel between Gen. Jackson and Sen. Benton.

In 1813 Jackson's friend William (afterward Gen.) Carroll became involved in a quarrel with Jesse Benton, a brother of T. H. Benton, and challenged him. Carroll asked Jackson to be his second, which he declined, until Carroll told him there was a conspiracy "to run him (Carroll) out of the country," when he resolved to interfere. At the first meeting between Jackson and Benton, the latter made use of the harshest language in speaking of the former, all of which was reported to the general, who threatened to horsewhip Benton the first time they should meet.

On September 4 Jackson, accompanied by Col. Coffee, met the Bentons in the streets of Nashville, Benton striking him first with a sword cane. Jackson advanced upon Benton, who sought to draw a pistol, but was anticipated by his antagonist, who drew one and aimed at him. Benton started, and Jackson followed him, until they reached the back door of the city hotel, when Benton fired at Jackson, shattering his left shoulder, the pistol being charged with two balls and a slug. Jackson fell; and Coffee, who entered on hearing the report, fired at Sen. Benton, but missed him. He then drew his sword to strike down Benton, when the latter stumbled down a staircase. Meantime Mr. S. Hays, a nephew of Mrs. Jackson, who knew that it was Jesse Benton that fired at the general, volunteered to kill the latter, and a fierce conflict ensued between him and Jesse. Benton was wounded in several places, and would have been killed had not a bystander caught Hays' hand. Nothing but Jackson's own resolution to prevent the loss of his life, as all the doctors but one recommended amputation.

Melchizedek.

C. E. B., Gainesville, Mo.:

I would like to learn where Melchizedek was born, and also whether he came king of Salem.

Jewish tradition pronounces Melchizadek to be a survivor of the Deluge, the patriarch Shem. The way in which he is mentioned in Genesis would rather lead to the inference that Melchizedek was one of blood with the children of Ham, among whom he lived, chief (like the King of Sodom) of a settled Canaanitish tribe. And as Balaam was a prophet, so Melchizedek was a priest among the corrupted heathen, not self-appointed, but constituted by a special gift from God, and recognized as such by them. There is something surprising and mysterious in the first appearance of Melchizedek, and in the subsequent reference to him. Bearing a title which Hebrews in after ages would recognize as designating their own sovereign, bearing gifts which recall to Christians the Lord's Supper, and yet not appearing for a moment in the path of Abraham, and is unhesitatingly recognized as a person of higher spiritual rank than the friend of God. Disappearing as suddenly as he entered in, he lost to the sacred writings for a thousand years.

Of Salem, the place of which Melchizedek was king, no satisfactory identification of it with any known locality or ancient opinion has been current from the earliest ages of interpretation: 1. That or the Jewish commentators, who affirm that Salem is Jerusalem. Jerome, however, says it was not Jerusalem, but a town near Scythopolis, which in his day was still called Salem. Further, he identifies this Salem with the Salim of St. John the Baptist. 2. On the other hand, it is agreed that Salem is here employed for Jerusalem, but was chosen as a mere abbreviation to suit some exigency of the poetry, and point the allusion to the peace (*salem*) which the city enjoyed through the protection of God, or whether, after a well known habit of poets, it is an antique name preferred to the more modern and familiar one, is a question not yet decided. In the ancient church, a sect, called Melchizedekites, regarded Melchizedek as an incarnation of a divine power, and as superior to Christ.

Indians of the Maumee Valley.

C. L. G., Fremont, O.:

Where did the Indians leave the Maumee Valley, and where did they go?

Rev. E. C. Gevitt answered these questions in a Toledo paper, some time ago, as follows:

"From the time I was ordained, in the early part of my ministry, in 1823, principally emigrated West, as follows:

The Delawares, of what is now Marion county, ceded their reservation to John McElvain, the United States commissioner at Little Sandusky, O., August 3, 1829, and soon after moved west of the Mississippi.

In August, 1831, treaties were negotiated with the Senecas of Lewistown, and the Shawnees of Wapakoneta, by James Gardner, esq., and Col. John McElvain, commissioners appointed by the United States government. These Indians were removed to the Indian territory, in Kansas, September, 1832.

The Ottawas, upon the Maumee river near Gilead, now Grand Rapids, disposed of their claims and moved West in 1834.

The Wyandots, Big and Little Super Sandusky, ceded their reservation to Col. John Johnson, the Indian agent, and commissioner of the United States, in 1842, emigrated to the far West and settled near the mouth of the Kansas City, in 1843.

The Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottawatomies, Wyandots, Shawnees, Munsies and Delawares, had ceded their rights to the Fire Lands by their respective chiefs, in what is now the city of Toledo, July 4, 1805, and soon after settled in different parts of the state, a few going to Michigan and other territories.

Naturalization, Etc.

F. P. D., Gilman, Ia.:

1. Can the Chinese obtain naturalization papers and become citizens of the United States? 2. I read in a paper that one had received his papers in Des Moines lately. 2. Please give the counties contained in the different congressional districts of Iowa. 3. Is "Uncle Tom's Cabin" founded on facts, or is it a novel?

1. The courts of several states have decided that they cannot; while, on the other hand, several have been granted naturalization papers. The Supreme court, we believe, has recently decided that they cannot be naturalized under existing laws.

2. First—Des Moines, Henry, Jefferson, Lee, Louisa, Van Buren, Washington. Second—Cedar, Clinton, Jackson, Jones, Muscatine, Scott, Illinois, Tama, Clayton, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Delaware, Dubuque, Grundy. Fourth—Allamakee, Chickasaw, Clayton, Fayette, Floyd, Howard, Mitchell, Winneshiek. Fifth—Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Linn, Marshall, Tama. Sixth—Davis, Jasper, Keokuk, Mahaska, Monroe, Poweshiek, Wapello, Seventh—Adair, Dallas, Guthrie, Madison, Marion, Polk, Warren. Eighth—Adams, Appanoose, Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Page, Ringgold, Taylor, Union, Wayne. Ninth—Audubon, Cass, Crawford, Fremont, Harrison, Mill, Montgomery, Pottawattomie, Shelby. Tenth—Boone, Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Humboldt, Kossuth, Story, Winnebago, Worth, Wright. Eleventh—Buena Vista, Calhoun, Carroll, Cherokee, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Greene, Ida, Lyon, Monona, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Sac, Sioux, Woodbury. 3. A mixture of fact and fiction.

Miscellaneous.

C. G., Greenville, Wis., says Hayes is the author of "Twenty Years Ago."

T., Belvidere, Neb., says cold Friday was February 14, 1817, the day that he was born, so his grandmother says.

J. P., Dupont, O.: The prosecuting attorney of your county will tell you what steps should be taken in the matter you mention.

W. A., Richmond, Ind., requests some BLADE reader to send a copy for two old songs—Perry's Victory and Jackson's Victory at New Orleans.

Reader, Perry, Mich.: As the case is already in court, no advice the Bureau could offer would be of any benefit now. Trust to your lawyers, and follow their instructions.

J. S., Francisco, Ind.:

1. Is the book "Andersonville" illustrated? 2. Can you tell me where the word canoe can be found in the Bible?

1. Yes. 2. No.

J. F. R., Prescott, Mich.: The trade dollar was coined at the San Francisco mint on the order of merchants trading with the Asiatic coast, and its use over there became so general that it was declared legal money in China by a voluntary imperial edict.

A. R., Tecumseh, Mich.:

Not knowing the Washington address of certain senators to whom I wish to write, how should I direct so as to reach them?

The letters will reach them if simply directed to Sen. ——, Washington, D. C.

S. C. N., Etha, Ala.: A "scot" was formerly a tax or fine, so that scot-free literally meant free from payment of tax, but the phrase was retained after the word became obsolete, and is applied in a general way to any one who escapes payment of any assessment or penalty.

B. T., Lyons, Kan.:

Please tell me the process of making straw paper, the probable cost of machinery, and all the information you can give.

The process was fully described a few weeks ago. Do not know what the cost of machinery would be.

Sub., Rockport, Ind.:

1. What salary does Henry Ward Beecher get? 2. What is the President's salary?

1. Between $20,000 and $30,000. His salary is changed to suit the times. During his trial his salary was at the rate of $100,000. 2. Fifty thousand.

Mary, Malta, Mo.: The only king who ruled over England, Denmark and Norway was Canute, who also had claim to the throne of Sweden. The last British sail was that of Sedgmoor, July 6, 1685, in which the rebels under the Duke of Monmouth were defeated by the royal army.

Reader, Lawrence county, Tenn., writes: "I saw an article in the BLADE of December 16 from W. S. P., of Tennessee, Tenn., stating that he was here for his health. My opinion is that it is the health of his pocket-book, as he is a real estate agent and has his shingle out as such. My advice is for parties coming from the North to look a little further than Summertown for a location."

Sub., Boothe, Kan.: The articles not mailable are the following: "Liquids, poisons, explosive and inflammable articles, lusty substances easily liquified, live or dead animals not stuffed, insects or reptiles, fruits or vegetable matter, confectionery, pastes or confections and substances exhaling a bad odor." Also indecent or obscene envelopes or postal cards and matters relating to lotteries and gift concerts.

A. W. S., Paw Paw, Ills.:

Please tell us all about Aladdin and the wonderful lamp.

You should read "The Arabian Knights Entertainments," in which Aladdin figures as a character. He becomes possessed of a wonderful lamp, and an equally wonderful ring, in rubbing which two frightful genii appear, who are respectively the slave of the lamp and the ring, and who execute the bidding of any one who may have them in his keeping.

F. H. H., Bedford, Ind.:

Give particulars of the Custer massacre.

The slaughter occurred June 25, 1876, on the left bank of the Little Big Horn river, Montana territory, near a large Indian village. The Sioux Indians had long been restless under the encroachments of the whites, and the United States forces had been sent to punish them. Gen. Custer, with his entire command, consisting of five companies of cavalry and their officers, attempted to capture the village. The troops were overwhelmed by a vastly superior force of savages, and Gen. Custer and about 300 soldiers were massacred.

J. R. R., Point Pleasant, W. Va.:

1. Are the people in the territories allowed to vote for President? 2. Which is the richest state? Which state in the United States pays the least salary to her governor? 3. When was African slavery introduced into the United States?

1. No. 2. Michigan, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, $1,000. Oregon and Missouri follow with $1,500. Pennsylvania and New York pay $10,000, Colorado and Illinois $6,000, and the other states from $2,500 to $5,000. 3 We don't see any mention in Encyclopedia that North America were brought to Virginia in a Dutch vessel of war in 1620.

D. H. W., Chestnut Ridge, N. C.: Starting from New York City and making a journey around the world, the traveler would cover 22,770 miles. The distance would be from New York to San Francisco, 3,450 miles; San Francisco to Yokohama, 4,764 miles; Yokohama to Hong Kong, 1,620 miles; Hong Kong to Singapore, 1,150; Singapore to Calcutta, 1,200; Calcutta to Madras, 1,409; Bombay to Aden, 1,664; Aden to Suez, 1,308; Suez to Alexandria, 250; Alexandria to Marseilles, 300; Marseilles to Paris, 536; Paris to London, 316; London to Liverpool, 200; Liverpool to New York, 3,000, making the total as given above.

G. M., Latty, O.:

1. Please give a description of the "mall" at Washington, D. C. 2. Where has there been two battles fought on the same ground in the United States?

2. The mall extends from the capitol grounds west to Fifteenth street, between B street north and B st. S. south, leading to the West Capitol street. It contains the botanic garden, comprising ten acres, the Smithsonian institution, and the department of agriculture. The park extends west from the grounds to the banks of the Potomac, and contains the Washington monument and the government propagating garden and nursery. 2. Bull Run, and perhaps several other places.

R. L., Ashville, Ala., writes: "I noticed some time ago in the BLADE a questioner of Kansas wanted to know if there was a company insuring crops against destruction by hail. I write in answer that there are two companies in this territory. I had 30 acres insured. The manner of doing business is this: I paid 50 cents premium on a policy of $10 per acre for total destruction, or per cent. destroyed if not a total loss. They also issue policies of $8 and $12 per acre. I had ten acres totally destroyed, for which I received $100. The mutual companies charge $10 to join the company, and in case of loss, assess the members pro rata to payments. Several parties here insured in the mutual and had but little left after paying dues and assessments."

J. L., Jr., Mich.:

1. Which was the first permanent colony in the United States? 2. How was the map of Europe changed by the Franco-Prussian war? 3. Where and when was the first white child born in the United States?

1. Melendez, a Spaniard, founded St. Augustine, Fla., September 8, 1565, with 500 colonists. It was the first permanent settlement in the United States. 2. France lost the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine. 3. It is said that a son born to Thorfinn Karlsefne, in Vinland, in 1007, was the first child of European parents born on the American continent. The child was named Snorri. The statue of Thorwaldsen, the celebrated Danish sculptor, and one or two Danish sculptors of repute, descended from Snorri.

D. W., Apollo, Pa.:

I would like to have the military history of Gen. O. M. Mitchell.

Mitchell was a West Point graduate (1829), but was engaged in civil pursuits when the war broke out. August 9, 1861, he was made brigadier general of volunteers, and ordered to the department of the Ohio; after the capture of Nashville, he made a forced march southward, seized the railroad between Corinth and Chattanooga, captured Huntsville, and occupied various points in northern Alabama, for which he was made major general, March 21, 1862; September 17 he was made commander of the department of the South, and was making preparations for a vigorous campaign when he fell a victim to yellow fever, dying at Beaufort, S. C., October 30, 1862.

J. A. M., Hutchinson, Kan., writes: "One of your correspondents asks when John A. Murrel lived and what became of him. Murrel, the great land pirate, the head center of the system, made no one place his home long at a time. About 1836 he brought his wife and children into West Tennessee, near the little town of Denmark, in Madison county. It was a new, sparsely settled country. He was widely understood to be at the head of a notorious band of robbers and horse thieves. A few wealthy men settled near Denmark in advance of Murrel's coming, and having negro property they grew uneasy lest Murrel should breed trouble with their negroes; they, therefore, hired a young man by the name of Stewart to track Murrel up and get evidence by which he could have him convicted. Stewart fell in with Murrel, traveled through part of Tennessee and Mississippi with him, and got all the information necessary. On Murrel's return to his home he was arrested, tried and sent to the Tennessee penitentiary for ten years. We have not the exact date, but his trial was closed about the year 1836. He served his term out, was released and went west, and his absence of years soon caused it to be said he had died. This report was received with many grains of allowance, and whether true or not, was never satisfactorily settled. The book Stewart published after Murrel's conviction effectually broke up the clan."

G. T. says "tell C. M. W. that nitric acid is used to put names on razors and knife blades, after writing the name in wax."

Sub., Clear Springs, Mich.:

Please give a sketch of the origin of the Christmas tree, the meaning, and when it first came into notice.

It is an old German custom. In the Protestant districts of Germany and the north of Europe, Christmas is often called the "children's festival," and Christmas Eve is devoted to giving presents, more or less costly, to wives and children, and brothers and sisters, by means of the so-called Christmas tree. After the distribution of the presents, a more sober scene succeeds, for the mother takes this occasion to say privately to the daughters, and the father to the sons, what has been observed most praiseworthy and what most faulty in their conduct.

A. J. K., Riverside, Wyoming Ter.:

1. What is a good mixture for a cut (with an ax) on my instep? 2. What is a remedy for a school teacher who talks continually to his scholars? 3. In what part of the United States are women allowed to vote?

1. If the wound is large it should be sewed up. A good remedy is to place a piece of lint, moistened with creosote, on the wound, previously wiped clean, or to pour a drop or two of that liquid upon it. Friar's balsam, quick-drying copal varnish, tincture of galls, copperas water, black ink, etc., are popular remedies, applied in the same way. 2. Let him talk; he will "run down" some time. 3. All the 38 states limit suffrage to male citizens, but in Colorado, Massachusetts, and some other states women may vote at school district elections. Women vote on all questions in Wyoming territory, we believe.

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NOTHING IS KNOWN TO SCIENCE AT all comparable to the CUTICURA REMEDIES in their marvellous properties of cleansing, purifying and beautifying the skin and in curing torturing, disfiguring, itching, scaly and pimply diseases of the skin, scalp and blood, with loss of hair.

CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, and CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite Skin Beautifier, prepared from it, externally, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new Blood Purifier, internally, are a positive cure for every form of skin and blood disease, from pimples to scrofula. CUTICURA REMEDIES are absolutely pure, and the only infallible Skin Beautifiers and Blood Purifiers.

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Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases."

HANDS Soft as dove's down, and as white, by using CUTICURA MEDICATED SOAP.

DISGUSTED SOCIALISTS.

They Object to Paying the Bills of Aveling and His Wife.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The *Herald* says: The socialists will never more import a professional agitator from the effete monarchies of Europe. The recent experiment with Dr. Edward Aveling and Mrs. Elenor Max Aveling has had a most disastrous effect upon the exchequer of the National Executive board. Strenuous efforts are made among more prudent members of the tribe to avoid publicity of the scandal, as they claim it would hurt the "cause."

"Unpaid labor is the greatest curse of modern civilization—that's the whole problem in a nut-shell," proclaimed Dr. Aveling. That was the axiom of his system of politico economy on all the platforms through his lecturing tour. As the result of this idea the executive committee were compelled to honor his drafts, amounting to $1,300 for thirteen weeks' work, without demurring, though the price was considered rather stiff for a socialist who professed to have only the welfare of the poor and disinherited at heart. But the patience of the board with Herr Herman Walter as spokesman broke down when the couple returned last week to the city from their western tour, and presented a supplementary bill of $600.

"Do you consider these items legitimate expenses?" queried Herr Walter, in a rage, as he pointed at a charge of $25 for corsage boquets, required to enhance the beauty of Mrs. Aveling. Other objectionable items were overhauled in the same fashion. The extraordinary bill had a round sum of $5 for cigars to the doctor and began to fill his emancipated lady. Their official correspondence during a period of three months had involved an expense of $26 for postage stamps. Their theatre tickets were summarized at $500, though it is a notorious fact that the great disciple of Carl Marx showed himself an expert at deadheading at all theatres on the plea of being a dramatic critic for the *Saturday Review* and other English publications. At Baltimore his wine bill was $42 for two days. Aveling finally compromised for $100.

FIFTY AND TWENTY.

Miss Fannie Matthews and the Illinois Preacher.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Miss Fannie Matthews, who eloped with the Rev. C. B. Searles, of East Lyhn, Ill., has been placed in her mother's care by the Pinkerton detective agency. Searles was 50 years old, had a wife and family, and was highly esteemed as a pastor. His victim was but 20. Searles was always made welcome in the Matthews household, and spared no pains to praise Fannie. Her parents considered this in the light of a compliment, so highly did they regard the minister.

At last the pastor gained the permission of Mr. and Mrs. Matthews to allow Fannie to act as his amanuensis. Fannie occupied this position for some time, but at last went away from East Lynn to visit some friends. The pastor disappeared a few days later, and suspicion was aroused for the first time. The matter was placed in Pinkerton's hands, and descriptions of the couple scattered broadcast all over the country. One of these was received by an officer in Alma, Ark., who recognized the description as that of Rev. Charles Brady, who had preached there several times. Miss Mathews was living in Alma as his daughter. A detective and Fannie's mother immediately went to Alma, but the couple had flown. Searles, alias Brady, found out that he was being shadowed, and left, and the detective found that the couple had gone to St. Louis and from there to Canada.

Supt. Robertson notified his operatives at London, Canada, and Searels and his victim were arrested day before yesterday when they stepped from the train. The pastor was allowed to go, and the girl was brought to this city, where she was joined by her mother, who took her back to East Lynn.

The Only Way to Conquer Dyspepsia.

It is perfectly preposterous to introduce pepsin and other artificial solvents into the stomach, in the expectation that they will assist digestion by acting on the food itself. They will not. Nor is it possible thus to overcome dyspepsia. The only way to conquer that disorder, and prevent the numerous diseases and disabilities which it assuredly provokes, is to renew the activity of gastric action by strengthening the stomach. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters eradicates the most inveterate forms of indigestion by restoring vitality to the alimentary organs, and those which are tributary to them. The liver, the bowels, the kidneys and the nerves, no less than the stomach, experience the invigorative effects of that standard tonic, which possesses properties that greatly enhance its beneficial influence, and give a permanence to its effects which they would not otherwise possess.

Looks Suspicious.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—Dr. Formad, coroner's physician, is investigating the singular series of deaths in the family of Mrs. Mary Hart. Dr. English found on his return to the city from a short absence that Mrs. Hart's new born infant, which was in full health when he last saw it, died on Monday night very suddenly and mysteriously. He also learned it was the 13th child which Mrs. Hart had lost in the same way, and at the same tender age. Under the circumstances he declined to give a certificate, and the coroner will hold an inquest on the body of the infant to-day.

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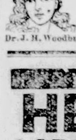

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Ten years ago my health began to fail. I was troubled with a distressing Cough, Night Sweats, Weakness, and Nervousness. I tried various remedies prescribed by different physicians, but became so weak that I could not go up stairs without stopping to rest. My friends recommended me to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla, which I did, and I am now as healthy and strong as ever.—Mrs. E. L. Williams, Alexandria, Minn.

I have used Ayer's Sarsaparilla, in my family, for Scrofula, and know, if it is taken faithfully, that it will thoroughly eradicate this terrible disease. I have also prescribed it as a tonic, as well as an alterative, and must say that I honestly believe it to be the best blood medicine ever compounded.—W. F. Fowler, M. D., D. D. S., Greenville, Tenn.

Dyspepsia Cured.

It would be impossible for me to describe what I suffered from Indigestion and Headache up to the time I began taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I was under the care of various physicians, and tried a great many kinds of medicines, but never obtained more than temporary relief. After taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla for a short time, my headache disappeared, and my stomach performed its duties more perfectly. To-day my health is completely restored.—Mary Harley, Springfield, Mass.

I have been greatly benefited by the prompt use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It tones and invigorates the system, regulates the action of the digestive and assimilative organs, and vitalizes the blood. It is, without doubt, the most reliable blood purifier yet discovered.—H. D. Johnson, 383 Atlantic avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. ††

Ayer's Sarsaparilla,

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Price $1; six bottles, $5.

Trouble in the Whisky Pool.

PEORIA, Ill., Dec. 29.—It has been learned that Kidd, the extensive distiller at Des Moines, Iowa, has notified the Western Export association, commonly known as the Whisky Pool, that he will withdraw from that organization January 1. If he should carry out the threat, the pool will doubtless go to pieces. Kidd, it is understood, is dissatisfied with his percentages.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 29.—The directors of the whisky pool are in session here to-day. Mr. Kidd, of Des Moines, who had some objections to the working of the association, is here, and it is said there is a fair prospect that the objections will be met, and he will retain his membership. The session continues this afternoon.

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TO THE FRIENDS OF THE BLADE.

We call especial attention to the advertisement on the fifth page announcing the giving away, this winter, of something over $2,000 in premiums for raising clubs for the WEEKLY BLADE. No more liberal offer was ever made by any newspaper, and it should result in an enormous increase in the circulation of the BLADE—the Old Reliable Family Newspaper. Some one is going to get a $650 Piano, somebody is going to get a first-class Cabinet Organ, some one will get a first-class Singer Sewing Machine, and scores will receive other premiums, every one of which is of positive value. In addition to these extra premiums, every one who interests him, or her, self in the matter gets very liberal pay for what they do, whether they secure a premium or not.

Now what you want to do is to get our terms to agents, and get to work. Those who already have them, should commence on receipt of this number of the paper.

The awards of these extra Premiums will be made May first. The field is open to everybody, men, women and children, and the rewards are rich. A $650 Piano is not picked up every day, nor is any other of the beautiful articles we propose to give away. Begin your work now.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE last week of the old year presented no noteworthy changes in the business outlook. Prices remained firm in all lines, and iron and cotton made slight advances. Wheat is advancing, and the country enters on the new year with confidence.

THE business failures in the United States during 1886 footed up 9,834, as against 10,637 in the previous year.

THE Chicago *Railway Age* publishes a table of the extent of railway construction in the several states and territories during the now-closing year. The total mileage of new main line track built was over 8,000. This has been exceeded in only two years in the railway history of this country, namely, in 1881, when 9,796 miles of track were constructed, and in 1882, when 11,568 miles were constructed.

A NEW YORK cotton firm estimates the cotton crop of the United States for 1886-87 at 6,350,000 bales, against an estimate of 6,520,000, and official of 6,550,000 for the preceding year.

THE annual report of the United States Civil Service commissioners is expected to be ready about February 1 next. It is stated that the report will show a continual improvement in the civil service of the country, and a steady advance in the estimation of the masses of the principles of the reform. The politicians who have steadily opposed the work of the commissioners and sought by every means to hamper them in their work, it is noted, are less open in manifesting their hostility than formerly.

DURING the session of Congress up to the holiday recess, considerable work was done. The sundry civil, the army, and the "urgency" deficiency bills were passed by the House, and the latter by the Senate. The latter branch has passed the bill repealing the tenure of office law and the bill to reduce the trade dollar, the silver they contain to be credited to the regular monthly purchase of bullion. The bill extending the free delivery postal system has passed both houses. The electoral count bill, and the bill for allotting land in severalty to the Indians are both in the hands of joint committees of conference, and the interstate commerce bill, as remodeled by the conferees, is before the Senate. The following appropriation bills have all been reported to the House: pensions, Indian, diplomatic, and military academy.

IT is pleasant to record the fact that the bill for the relief of the survivors of the exploring steamer Jeannette, and the widows and children of those who perished in the retreat from the wreck of that vessel, has passed Congress. It is the least the country can do, to provide for those who so bravely faced death in that unfortunate expedition.

THERE is some discussion among Congressmen as to the possibility, in the absence of any revenue reduction legislation, of passing HEWITT'S measure for anticipating interest payments on our bonds, and largely reducing the surplus by that method.

REP. SPRINGER says he intends to secure, if possible, the passage by the present Congress of his bill to provide an enabling act for the admission of Dakota, Montana, New Mexico, and Washington Territories.

THERE will likely be some of the Senate's time consumed in an effort to find a way of bringing Canada to a realizing sense of the error of her ways in her treatment of Yankee fishermen. The owners of fishing vessels which have been seized during the past season, are transmitting statements of their losses to the Senate committee on Foreign Affairs, at the request of that body.

EX-SEN. ROLLINS, of New Hampshire, has written an open letter to the members-elect of the New Hampshire legislature, announcing that he is a candidate for election to the United States Senate, and asking their votes. He calls attention to former contests for Senator in that state, and to his record in and out of the Senate, and says that if elected for the short term he should not be a candidate for the term that follows.

THE anarchists of Chicago who belong to the Knights of Labor resent very bitterly Mr. POWDERLY'S just denunciation of the red flag and its followers. They demand a revocation of the circular, and threaten that, in the event of a refusal, his authority will not be recognized in a majority of the Chicago assemblies. Mr. POWDERLY should not swerve a hair's breadth from the position he has taken. The usefulness of the order is at an end as soon as it recognizes the anarchistic element as a factor.

IT is stated that a call for a special meeting of the general assembly of the Knights of Labor will soon be made on the ground that the election of officers at Richmond was illegal and that all acts of the general executive board are therefore void. It is believed by many that, whether or not the extra session is called, a split in the order cannot be averted.

SOME one has found a law on the statute books of Pennsylvania under which it is proposed to test the legality of the charters of the Knights of Labor, if Mr. POWDERLY refuses to call a special session of the general assembly.

IN 21 counties of northern Texas there are 30,000 persons in need of food, clothing and fuel, and thousands more without seed to sow the coming spring. This misery is the result of the great drouth of last summer, causing a complete loss of crops.

THE decrease of the National debt for the month of December was $9,358,202. Total cash on hand in treasury, $144,915,788. A good deal could be done in the way of permanent coast defenses with this sum.

JOHN W. MACKAY has done a thing never done before in the United States. He declined an election to the United States Senate unanimously tendered him by the Nevada legislature.

A WASHINGTON correspondent says that forty Republican congressmen have petitioned the Republican members of the Ways and Means Committee to formulate a bill to take the internal revenue tax off alcohol used in manufactures and arts, to remove the revenue tax from tobacco, to cut the sugar duty twenty-five per cent., and to discuss means of bringing such a measure before the House.

LOGAN'S funeral was hardly over before the newspapers begin lying about the Republican nomination for President in 1888. A story has already started that the CAMERONS, of Pennsylvania, are scheming to put DON CAMERON at the head of the Republican ticket. The rumor is said to have started with the death of Gen. LOGAN, who was the favorite of the CAMERONS.

THE relative amount of money in circulation and employed in business at the end of the year may be found by a comparison of the New York bank statements for the years past. At the close of 1884, the surplus reserve in excess of the 25 per cent. to be held against deposits was $40,944,775; at the same time in 1885, $24,712,650; last week, $7,232,200. This shows that the money is not piled up in the bank vaults, because there is abundant demand for it in business. There is more money in the country now than at any previous period, and gold is arriving at the rate of over a million a week. The nation is in good financial condition.

THE Wabash fight is not yet over. The old receivers, ousted by Judge GRESHAM, have prepared a report, in which they show the bankrupt condition of the property when they took hold of it, how they gradually improved and built it up, and "the bright future there was for the whole system when the shadow of this removal fell upon the property." The shadow upon the Wabash was that of JAY GOULD. He and his creatures should be shown that they do not own the courts of the country.

THE organization of farmers, known as "Wheelers," is said to number 60,000 in Arkansas alone.

ANOTHER eye-witness to the murder of Minister HADDOCK, the temperance advocate, by men representing the opposing interest, at Sioux City, Iowa, has been discovered.

IT reminds one of the Dark Ages, when the children of the chosen race were treated like dogs, and worse, by nominally Christians nations, to read that in this year of grace all German Jews residing in Poland, who are workmen or apprentices, are required by the Czar's ukase to hold certificates as merchants of the first guild. These certificates cost 700 rubles, and the ukase is a practical order of expulsion.

THE situation in English politics is much mixed. The resignation of Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL has thrown everything into confusion, and it is now positively announced that Lord HARTINGTON has declined to assist in straightening out the tangle by accepting a seat in Lord SALISBURY'S cabinet. As things stand there is no party, nor any coalition of factions with strength enough to carry on the government, and either Lord RANDOLPH must return to the ministerial ranks, or Parliament must be dissolved and the country asked to give some one leader the necessary following. Of these alternatives it seems probable that the first will be adopted. CHURCHILL'S resignation was an act of impulse, and it is likely that means will be found to open a way for his return. The administration has the advantage of the royal support, and the Queen will do all she can to keep her favorite SALISBURY at the head of affairs.

THERE appears to be now four parties in the field of English politics—Conservatives, those who are with Lord CHURCHILL, the Liberals, and the Liberal-Unionists. Should the latter decide to return to the Liberal party it will make a great change in affairs. The overtures of CHAMBERLAIN and MORLEY show that there is now a strong feeling on both sides in favor of a union. Meanwhile, GLADSTONE maintains an attitude of dignified reserve. He will give his assent to a reunion of the Liberals, provided the bill for the government of Ireland be given precedence over the land bill in Parliament, and a separate Parliament be granted to Ireland. Lord SALISBURY has made a bid for the support of Mr. GOSCHEN who is one of the strongest of the 80 Liberals who left Mr. GLADSTONE in the late contest. Should he secure his acceptance of the position of Chancellor of the Exchequer, it will do much towards strengthening the government.

ON New Year's day Emperor WILLIAM celebrated the eightieth anniversary of his entrance into the Prussian army. All of the commanding officers headed by the Crown Prince were received with cordial greetings, and the latter made a speech, to which the Emperor, deeply moved, made reply. Berlin was gaily decorated for the day, and at evening was brilliantly illuminated, and when the Emperor appeared driving in a carriage to the cathedral, the greatest enthusiasm was manifested. Whatever differences of political opinion there may be in Germany, they do not seem to affect the love the people have for Emperor WILLIAM.

BULGARIAN matters are still in an unsettled state, and there is little to show what will be the next movement upon this Eastern chess board. Servia has opened negotiations looking towards a confederation of the Balkan states in the event of a war, which would be an eminently wise step to take. The recent activity of the Nihilists makes it not at all improbable that the Czar, in his irritable state may be aroused to take some precipitate step that will bring trouble. Other powers are endeavoring to preserve peace, though not intermitting preparations for a possible war.

A DISPATCH from Halifax says that the Queen's "jubilee," or the fiftieth anniversary of her accession to the throne, will be made the occasion for the bestowal of honors upon prominent Canadians, and that among them Sir JOHN MACDONALD will be raised to the peerage with the title of Earl of Ottawa. This will please the pride of a statesman who, in whatever qualities he may be lacking, is possessed of great energy and coutage, and, what is of more consideration when honors are being passed round, is loyal to the imperial connection. Then, if the Conservatives are defeated at the coming general elections in Canada, Sir JOHN will find an earldom a very soft thing to fall back upon.

THE EFFECT OF ALCOHOL IN THE HUMAN BODY.

There are, unfortunately, a great many good, honest people in this land of ours, who have the impression fixed in their minds that beer, and wine, and whisky, are, in some manner, of use in the human system. They decry the immoderate use of Rum, yet cling to the idea that in small quantities it is not harmful, but rather beneficial. This error—for error it is—is unfortunately supported by a large number of doctors, especially those of narrow reading and limited educational advantages in early life and in the study of the theory of medicine. The best educated physicians of the present unhesitatingly agree that Rum—or its active principle, alcohol—is not only not a food, but that even as a medicine it can be dispensed with, its place being supplied by safer remedies, which will produce a better effect, with none of the evil results which the use of alcohol entails.

The class of conservative, or poorly-educated physicians have, as a rule, no personal investigations nor experience in the matter, but merely quote the theory proposed by a medical writer of some repute, a number of years ago, that up to a certain point, alcohol is consumed or disposed of in the human system; that up to this point alcohol is not only harmless, but acts the part of a food; and this limit is fixed at from an ounce to an ounce and a half of alcohol per day. Above this limit—which was assumed to vary with different individuals—alcohol was admitted to be injurious to the drinker. This theory you will find quoted by medical men to-day, in the most grave and impressive manner, notwithstanding the fact that its fallacies have been shown up, its conclusions have been proved unsound, and the whole thing relegated for a long time to its proper place among the exploded and untenable theories of the past, along with the "doctrine of signatures" and other medical trash.

What, then is the effect upon the body of taking alcohol, in any of its many forms, into the human system? It must be placed among some one of these five classes of substances:

First—Among the true foods, which supply new material for the building up of the bodily tissues, and supply nerve-force or heat;

Second—As one of the accessory foods, which, while not performing the office of a true food, yet facilitate nutrition, like salt or the acid principles of fruit;

Third—As a medicine, to correct impaired functions of the different organs;

Fourth—As a poison, which produces injurious effect upon the tissues or functions;

Fifth—As an inert body, which passes through the alimentary canal without being absorbed or producing any effect whatever, as does a small seed, for instance.

Alcohol must necessarily belong to one of the above five classes, as they cover all possible cases of articles which are taken into the stomach. It is plain that it does not come under the fifth class. Every one knows that. It produces certain effects, which differ in degree but not in kind, owing to the amount taken into the system. Let us, then, inquire what are those effects, in order that we may decide under which of the first four heads it shall be classified.

If a capsule be filled with alcohol, so that not a particle touches the tongue or mouth, in a few minutes its odor will be perceptible on the expired breath. This shows that it is being thrown off by the lungs in an unchanged state.

A chemical examination of the perspiration and urine shows that they contain alcohol in an unchanged state. Thus we have it demonstrated that the lungs, the kidneys and the sweat-glands of the skin—three great excretory agencies of the body—set to work as soon as the alcohol gets into the blood to work it out of the system. It is excreted in an unchanged state; it is alcohol, nothing more or less.

Hence it cannot be a food. True foods are assimilated by the system, and, after performing their function of producing heat or force, or building up the tissue, are excreted in an entirely different chemical form from the original one. Sugar, for instance, is a heat-producing food. It is thrown off from the lungs, not as sugar, but as carbonic acid gas—and from the other excretory organs in various combinations, but not as sugar. The same is true of all other true foods. Not one of them is thrown off in an unchanged form. Hence alcohol is not a food.

Then which of the other three classes does it come under? Is it an accessory food—does it facilitate nature's processes? The universal voice of the highest medical authorities is that it does exactly the opposite. It hinders digestion, for example. Now in this we know the popular opinion is just the opposite. At a state dinner, for instance, when a very large quantity of food is taken into the stomach, the general idea is that liquor of some kind—wine, or brandy—facilitates digestion by aiding the stomach in the work of getting rid of the mass of food. The fact is, however, that it does nothing of the sort. I deadens the nerves of the stomach, so that we lose consciousness of the uncomfortable load. The process of digestion is retarded by two or three hours. In the other parts of the system, alcohol diminishes the waste of the tissues. But this is an evil, in that it keeps in the system molecules of matter which have fulfilled their office, and are but a burden. They should be thrown off. But alcohol keeps them within the body; hence the unhealthy load of fat which the bloated and blotched drunkard carries about with him, if he have plenty of food to eat. Alcohol suspends animation—puts on the brakes, slows up tissue change, and conduces to passivity, or a sort of life which is perhaps more nearly allied to death than to true living. DR. PARKES found that even moderate amounts of alcohol administered to a laboring man deranged the heart's action and greatly lessened his working power.

Hence it is not a true food, not an accessory food—therefore it must be either a medicine or a poison. But all medicines, practically, are poisons, when taken in any but very small doses. Let us quote Dr. FOOTE, of New York, on this subject:

"The origin of alcohol will give us a strong clue as to its nature. It is the product of putrefactive processes found more in dead than in living tissues, and its main source is the fermentation due to the activity of a low form of animal life. It appears to be an excrementory product, and its physiological action thus confirms this view of its nature. Ammonia is another product of excretion, and the effects of alcohol and ammonia are so similar in important points that Dr. Wood puts them in the same class in his Materia Medica. They are called local irritants, cardiac stimulants, and nerve paralyzers.

"Thus far we have found that alcohol appears to possess some of the true properties of a food; that if we may judge by such indications as its chemical nature and its origin, it is to animal life more like an ash than like a food, that unlike a food it is quickly eliminated through many channels, and that while reaching the tissues it restrains life action in that it slows the process of cell growth and retards tissue change; that in fact it suspends life instead of supporting it, and that the study of its poisonous effects shows that its influence is all in the direction of death-producing rather than life-giving. In short, it is a poisoner of living tissue, and a preserver of dead tissue.

"Alcohol is known to reduce the temperature or bodily heat except in those who are habituated to it. It lessens the oxygen-bearing power of the red corpuscles and retards the elimination of carbonic acid gas. It retards metabolism—tissue change—nutrious elimination. The weight of evidence tends to show that it diminishes the excretion of urea. Locally it irritates the mucous membrane, impairs the stomach's digestion, increases the rapidity of the heart's action, shortens the period of the heart's rest, paralyzes the minute blood vessels and anaesthetizes or benumbs brain and nerve tissue. It produces irritation, congestion, and revulsion wherever it strikes. It hardens the connective tissue which goes to make up the structure of the body, and softens or degenerates glandular tissue—that is, the active, living cellular substance which in every organ really attends to or carries on the process of life."

It is classed as a medicine with ammonia. Would any one take ammonia for a steady drink? There is not one of its medical uses but that there is a better remedy now at the command of a physician. Almost the only use that is made of it in medicine is as a stimulant of the heart's action. Nitro-glycerine does the work better, and leaves no reaction like alcohol. The main features of alcohol's action are those of a poison. It deranges functions, stops healthful activity, paralyzes, deadens and destroys. It is a poison, and more baneful than any other poison, because it comes to man disguised in beer, wine, and stronger liquors. The taste for Rum is the taste for alcohol. It should be banished forever, for there is no use for it in the human economy. Yet men stand up and battle for the right to make and sell Rum,—Rum, which is but another name for alcohol—Rum, which is drank solely because it contains alcohol; for, if the alcohol were taken out of any form of Rum, men would turn with loathing from the watery slop which would remain. To banish alcohol we must banish Rum; and to banish Rum, we must

Pulverize the Rum Power!

TO THOSE NOT SUBSCRIBERS WHO RECEIVE THIS NUMBER OF THE BLADE.

A great many people, who are not subscribers will receive this number of the BLADE. We ask of all such a careful examination, and a just comparison with any other paper printed. And then, if it pleases you, as it will, remit your subscription at once, and secure its weekly visits. $1.00 a year, 30 cents for three months. You will never regret it.

A CLOUDY OPENING.

The old year closes with all Europe in a state of anxiety and alarm. It is loudly declared that war is imminent between Austria and Russia, and between France and Germany, and that England cannot escape being involved in the former, should it occur, and possibly in the latter.

The countries of continental Europe are all in a state of unstable equilibrium. Russia has a Czar who is alleged to be either a drunkard or a maniac. Emperor WILHELM is an old man, and cannot live but a very few years longer—while BISMARCK is also broken in health, and has nearly lived out his life. Yet the government and the imperial parliament are wrangling over the proposed increase in the army. The French ministry is admitted to be one which can be but short-lived, and her affairs are by no means in a favorable condition. Spain stands constantly on the brink of a revolution. Austria is discontented and alarmed at standing in the angle between Germany and Russia, a situation fraught with menace. Bulgaria is seeking still for a ruler, and there is every reason to apprehend serious complications before she has a prince who will suit herself as well as her powerful neighbors. Turkey is still the "Sick Man of the East."

And, under all this, there is a feeling of growing anger among the people of these countries at the galling, intolerable burden which the enormous standing armies impose upon them. War is a fearfully expensive and hazardous game, and the rulers apparently think that great armies, ready to take the field at a moment's notice, are the best means of preserving peace, by awing their foes. But the people who have to foot the bills, are growing more and more restive. The day may speedily come when Germany's ruler may welcome a war to avoid a revolution; for war stirs the latent patriotism of the masses, and avoids the danger of immediate rebellion. The day will come within a few years when there must either come a general war in Europe, a remaking of the map, and a definite settlement of relative importance, or there must be a general disarming. The people will either have the latter, or there will be a general revolution, which will overturn thrones and erect republics in their stead.

OUR SPLENDID PREMIUMS.

If you have not done so already, examine our magnificent scheme of premiums and enter the lists for one of them. No matter whether you get a premium or not, you will be well paid for what you do, IN MONEY. You may reach the Piano, but whether or no, you can lose nothing, and are certain to make a welcome addition to your pocket money for the winter. Men or women, boys or girls, there is room for all. We want a good worker at every postoffice. Send for our special terms to clubraisers, and learn what you can do, and what you will get for it

INSTEAD of howling over the large surplus in the Treasury, and casting about for ways and means to make political capital out of the fact, why is not something done to protect the immense interests along the seaboard, which would be exposed to destruction in case of war with a foreign nation? Practically the whole line of our sea coast is undefended. Nothing substantial has been done for its protection, and many of the cities could not be preserved, if an attack was made upon them, for any length of time, under the most favorable circumstances that could be devised. It is true that the international horizon is clear now, and that there seems no danger in a very near future, and yet it is not impossible that trouble might arise in an unexpected and unforeseen way at any moment. The time to prepare for danger is before it draws near, and the sooner that Congress takes hold of the matter the better.

GRAYSON county, Va., has two magistrates with original views of the law and their jurisdiction. A girl 15 years old, who had promised to marry an Englishman, changed her mind and refused to go to the church with him. He applied to the magistrates, who issued a warrant for the girl's arrest. Brought before these gentlemen, she persisted in her refusal, whereupon she was offered the alternative of marrying the man or going to prison, and the frightened creature choosing the former, the ceremony was quickly performed by the court.

THE St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* puts the case briefly and truthfully thus:

"John A. Logan died of disease contracted in the military service of the country, and his widow is entitled to a pension. The sum of $5,000 a year should be voted to her before the middle of January."

DURING last week there were removed, under peremptory orders from special agents, fences from twenty inclosures of public territory, embracing over 270,000 acres of land, principally in the Denver land district.

ROSCOE CONKLING entered the United States chamber on last Friday for the first time since his resignation, June 21, 1881. He was one of the honorary pall-bearers at the funeral of Gen. LOGAN.

HIRAM P. REVELS, the first colored man elected to the United States Senate, is now a well-to-do farmer in Mississippi. There have been two negro Senators and thirteen Representatives.

IT is thought that Sen. SEWELL will probably be made chairman of the Senate committee on Military Affairs, of which Gen. LOGAN was the head for many years.

JUSTICE WOODS, of the United States Supreme court, is so ill at Los Angeles, Cal., that his associates do not anticipate that he will ever return to the bench.

THE VOTE ON THE REBEL RAILROAD CLAIM.

A subscriber in the West writes to ask for the names of the Republicans who voted, in the House of Representatives, to pay the claim of the McMinnville and Manchester railway for $246,880. This claim has its foundation in the fact that Gen. THOMAS took up twenty-five miles of the track of this road and used it in repairing the tracks of the Nashville & Chattanooga line. It was a military necessity. We quote the following summary of the history of the claim in committee from an exchange:

"The report of the committee on War Claims in the present Congress presented no new facts, but merely reiterated the finding of the Judiciary committee of the previous Congress. That report was exceedingly meagre. A strong minority in the War Claims committee, including Judge Geddes, the Democratic chairman, thought the facts *insufficient and believed that the allowance of the claim would be a most dangerous precedent and would open the way for endless raid* on the national treasury.

"The lack of evidence to prove that the appropriation of the iron had been as stated was the chief reason for looking upon the measure with suspicion. Members of Congress who had been with the Union army in Tennessee were under the impression the *rebels themselves had torn up the rails and left little iron for the Union troops to appropriate*, while much of the road had *actually been rebuilt by Gen. Sherman*. The Tennessee delegation declared otherwise, but Gen. Grosvenor (Rep.) of Ohio, and Mr. Johnson of Indiana, were positive that they were right. The Indiana member declared the McMinnville & Manchester railroad was one of the *most efficient agents of the Confederacy*, having transported its troops and bankrupted itself by investing in Confederate bonds.

"Gen. Thomas, in a report made in 1867, specially urged that the Southern roads, including the McMinnville & Manchester, be held to their indebtedness to the United States *without consideration or recognition for any claim for damages or use by occupation* of the United States, such claims being believed to be *without foundation in justice or in right*. This report was made when all the facts were fresh. Mr. Johnson declared that every dollar of the rolling stock of the corporation followed the fortunes of the Confederacy, and all the United States got when it took possession was old iron and bridges that could not be taken away. He did not think this Confederate corporation should be paid for this captured property while loyal citizens along its line were denied relief on the ground of military necessity. Gen. Grosvenor (Rep.) was even more specific in his recollection. He said the government only got a streak of rust and the right of way.

"The friends of the bill made a labored effort to show that the old iron was really valuable and that the officers of the corporation had not at all been disloyal to the government. A careful reading of the extended debates on the bill in the House last April, when the subject was fully discussed, shows how weak the case they made out was. The most striking thing is the entire absence of positive testimony that would be required in any court to support a claim of the smallest kind. It also came out that at the close of the war the government had acted most magnanimously with the railroad. The principle sought to be established by the Tennessee delegation was far more pernicious than the simple claim of $250,000. Judge Geddes declared that Congressional legislation since the organization of the government in an unbroken line of precedent was against the allowance of such a claim."

Yet in the face of all this, the bill was passed—46 Republicans voting for it for some incomprehensible reason; while 62 Democrats, several of them from the South, voted against it. The damage from passing the bill allowing of this bogus claim is, that it sets a precedent under which untold millions will be paid out of the national treasury for the devastation wrought by the war in the South. Not a dollar should be paid for any such purpose. Below we give a list of the of the Republicans voting against this bill:

REPUBLICANS VOTING FOR IT.

Adams, G. E.	Ill.	Lyman, Joseph	Ia.
Brady, J. D.	Va.	Markham, H. H.	Cal.
Brown, C. E.	O.	McKinley, Wm. Jr.	O.
Burleigh, H. G.	N. Y.	Morrow, W. W.	Cal.
Butterworth, Ben.	O.	Negley, J. S.	Pa.
Cannon, J. G.	Ill.	O'Hara, J. E.	N. C.
Conger, E. H.	Ia.	Pierce, W. A.	R. I.
Dorsey, G. W. E.	Nebr.	Rainey, A. A.	Mass.
Dunham, R. W.	Ill.	Reed, T. B.	Me.
Ely, F. D.	Mass.	Rockwell, F. W.	Mass.
Grout, W. W.	Vt.	Romeis, Jacob	O.
Hale, L.	Kan.	Sawyer, J. G.	N. Y.
Hayden, E. D.	Mass.	Scranton, J. A.	Pa.
Haynes, M. A.	N. H.	Sessions, W. L.	N. Y.
Henderson, T. J.	Ill.	Smalls, Robert	S. C.
Hepburn, W. P.	Ia.	Steele, G. W.	Ind.
Hiscock, Frank	N. Y.	Stephenson, Isaac	Wis.
Holmes, A. J.	Ia.	Stewart, J. W.	Vt.
Houk, L. C.	Tenn.	Taylor, Zach	Tenn.
Kelley, W. D.	Pa.	Van Schaick, I. W.	Wis.
Libbey, Harry	Va.	Wadsworth, W. H.	Ky.
Lindsley, J.	Ill.	Wakefield, J. B.	Minn.
Louttit, J. A.	Cal.	White, A. C.	Pa.

DEMOCRATS VOTING AGAINST IT.

Anderson, C. M.	Ohio.	Hutton, J. E.	Mo.
Bacon, Henry	N. Y.	Jones, J. H.	Tex.
Barbour, J. S.	Va.	Landes, S. Z.	Ill.
Bennett, B. T.	N. C.	Lore, C. B.	Del.
Bisbee, H. P.	Fla.	Lowry, Robert	Ind.
Boyle, G. E.	Pa.	Martin, J. N.	Ala.
Bragg, E. S.	Wis.	Matson, C. C.	Ind.
Bynum, W. D.	Ind.	McRae, T. C.	Ark.
Campbell, Felix	N. Y.	Mills, R. Q.	Tex.
Campbell, J. K.	Ohio.	Morgan, J. T.	Miss.
Carleton, E. C.	Mich.	Murphy, J. H.	
Cobb, T. R.	Ind.	Neece, W. H.	Ill.
Cowles, W. H. H.	N. C.	Outhwaite, J. H.	Ohio.
Cox, S. S.	N. Y.	Peel, S. W.	Ark.
Cox, W. W.	Tenn.	Reagan, J. W.	Tex.
Davidson, A. C.	Ala.	Randall, S. J.	Pa.
Dawson, Wm.	Mo.	Riggs, J. M.	Ill.
Dockery, A. M.	Mo.	Seney, G. E.	Ohio.
Eden, John R.	Ill.	Singleton, O. R.	Miss.
Eldredge, N. B.	Mich.	Skinner, T. G.	N. C.
Fisher, S. O.	Mich.	Sowden, W. H.	Pa.
Foran, M. A.	Ohio.	Springer, W. M.	Ill.
Forney, W. H.	Ala.	Stahlnecker, W. G.	N. Y.
Frederick, B. T.	Ia.	Stone, W. J.	Mo.
Geddes, G. W.	Ohio.	Swope, J. A.	Pa.
Hall, B. J.	Ia.	Turner, H. G.	Ga.
Halsell, J. E.	Ky.	Viele, E. L.	N. Y.
Hatch, W. H.	Mo.	Ward, J. H.	Ill.
Holman, W. S.	Ind.	Weaver, J. B.	Ia.
Howard, J. G.	Ind.	Wilkins, E. B.	Mich.
Hudd, T. R.	Wis.	Worthington, N. E.	Ill.

SPECIMEN COPIES.

Send us, please, the name and address of every friend you have in the world, to whom we may send specimen copies of the WEEKLY BLADE. It makes no difference where they are located, north, south, east or west, for the BLADE circulates in every state and territory, and, by the way it is the only paper that does. Send in the names and do your friends a favor. You can get a great many addresses on a postal card.

THE republic of Switzerland has become alarmed at the prevalence of drunkenness among her people, it being almost universal now, especially among the lower classes, and bids fair to become worse instead of better. In order to impose some check the government is about to make the experiment of taking the control of the liquor traffic upon itself. The entire retail trade in all kinds of spirits will be monopolized, and the distillers are not to be allowed to sell to any one but the government. The laws regulating the sale to individuals will be aimed to diminish the excessive use of intoxicants, and it is hoped that drunkenness will be diminished. The experiment was tried in Russia, and it is said that when liquor could be had only at places where the imperial eagle was seen, the people were far more sober than now, when it can be had anywhere. The result in Switzerland will, no doubt, depend largely upon the stringency of the laws governing the traffic and the way in which they are carried out. Things can hardly be worse than now, and may be better.

THE New York *Graphic* has an important announcement in its financial columns—nothing less than that the gas companies generally throughout the country are preparing to adopt electric lighting as part of their regular business. The gas business is the largest commercial industry in the world with the exception of railroads. There is now over $500,000,000 invested in gas works in this country alone, and all gas companies which have been at all well managed have made their stockholders rich. The new departure in going into electric lighting will make bigger dividends for gas stockholders and perpetuate the practical monopoly which the gas companies hold in a majority of the cities and towns of the country. This action should be antagonized by the people, if they desire to have cheap lighting. The gas monopoly has been tolerated because of its convenience, but it should not be allowed to perpetuate itself by capturing the successful rival of gas.

ANOTHER PORTRAIT—THE LAMENTED LOGAN.

One by one the heroes of the great struggle for national existence are sinking into the tomb. The last to join the great majority is the lamented LOGAN, the greatest of the volunteer generals, and one of the staunchest patriots and grandest of men.

The BLADE has now in process of production the best portrait of LOGAN ever issued, taken from a photograph approved by himself before his death. It will be published upon the heaviest and best plate paper, in the style of those already issued by the BLADE of GRANT, SHERIDAN and SHERMAN. It will be sent singly to any address, postpaid, on receipt of 25 cents. For terms with our other portraits see announcement on fifth page. Special terms to agents who purchase by the quantity.

THE INTER-STATE COMMERCE BILL.

The bill regulating inter-state commerce will be brought up in Congress very soon. There is a wide diversity of opinion among the people as to its provisions. It is admitted, by every one save those financially interested in railways, perhaps, that Congress should exercise its power of regulating commerce between the states, and put an end to the abuses from which the people suffer at the hands of the railways; but views differ widely as to the provisions of such a measure.

The history of the efforts to formulate a bill may be told in a few words. The Senate discussed and modified and finally passed the Cullom bill. The House did the same with the Reagan bill. The two bills went into the hands of a committee of conference, which has elaborated a new measure, containing the best provisions of both the House and the Senate bill, and compromise measure is now before Congress for action.

The effective points of this bill may be summarized briefly as follows: It provides, first, for a commission of five members, defines their powers, prescribes legal penalties for violation of its provisions, and, in short, creates all the machinery for putting the commission in a supervisory position over railway traffic.

It prohibits the allowance by railways of rebates, special rates and unreasonable preferences and advantages of every sort, and requires all charges to be alike under similar circumstances and conditions, and that all shippers and all connecting lines shall be treated alike.

It prohibits a higher charge for a shorter than for a longer haul in the same direction.

It prohibits all pools, or agreements between competing lines of railway.

It requires that a printed schedule of all rates shall be posted conspicuously in all depots, etc., and prohibits any advance of rates without ten days' notice. Reductions, however, may be made without notice.

There is not one of these five reasons but is objected to, and strong reasons—on paper—are advanced why it should not be incorporated into law. It was the same with every provision of the Cullom bill and of the Reagan bill. It will be the same with any other measure that may come up for the purpose of this bill. But it is to be remembered that the whole matter relates to new legislation. It is the putting into effect a power which was placed in the hands of Congress by the constitution, but never hitherto exercised. The main point is to get a law passed, and put into effective operation. A poor law, or one which will only partly remedy the grievances of the people against the railways, is better than no law at all. The defects of any legislation will become apparent in its practical working, and may be remedied in the future. It is hopeless to attempt to enact an absolutely flawless statute, one perfect in every part, upon an entirely new subject of legislation.

The main thing is to get a law, and put it in operation. The people should pay no attention to the bosh that is talked and written in opposition to the measure. The bill is a good one, and should be promptly passed. Its operation will reveal its defects, which can be easily remedied next winter by the Fiftieth Congress. The railroads are laboring for delay, and are putting forth all sorts of objections to the measure. Pass the bill, and let us see if most of these objections do not vanish into thin air. They are brought forward to prevent action, that is all.

THE BLADE SEWING MACHINE.

If you contemplate purchasing a Sewing Machine this winter, order the Blade Machine, at once, that you may be sure of getting it in time. It gives absolute satisfaction, and we sell it for $18, with the WEEKLY BLADE, one year. It is the best and cheapest reliable Machine on the market. Order at once, and save money.

FIRE LOSSES THIS YEAR.

During November the total losses by fire in the United States were about $10,000,000, and for December they will be higher. The eleven months of 1886 up to December 1 shows a grand total of $105,000,000, which is in excess of the yearly average, that being, for some six or seven years past, about $100,000,000 annually. The losses increase instead of diminishing. A total of $100,000,000 a year means the actual extinction of that much capital. The country is just that much poorer, for though this loss does not fall on the owner when he is insured, it is just as surely a loss, for it is that much taken from the available wealth of the nation.

This is a subject that demands more attention than has yet been given it. Many of the smaller towns are practically without the means of protection against fire. It may yet be found necessary to compel them by law to provide such means. More stringent laws are also necessary in some states to govern the construction of buildings and the storage of their contents, and all insurance companies are not so careful in the risks they take that a premium is not often offered on incendiarism. It hardly need be said that so large a loss as that which has occurred this year is preventable, and the subject of preventing it is one which may well engage the attention and study of legislators.

CAPT. EADS and his friends have changed their tactics. Sen. VEST now proposes a bill to incorporate the Atlantic & Pacific Ship Railway company, stating that all that the promoters of the ship railway project now ask for is a simple incorporation act, without any guarantee by the government. Fortunately the session is so brief that EADS will probably not be given the prestige of a charter by Congress in his attempts to secure funds for his impracticable scheme from European capitalists. Let him incorporate under the laws of some one of the states. There is no need of the United States giving even the shadow of an endorsement to it.

THE only persons who have no words of kindness and praise for JOHN A. LOGAN are the mugwumps. They find fault with his rhetoric and his stalwart Republican faith. Even the Democrats, from the President down, speak of him as a great patriot, a gallant soldier and a statesman of broad views and unimpeachable honesty. But these do not count with the mugwumps against his stout devotion to the Union and his fealty to the party which he joined when the Union was in danger.

IOWA celebrated the fortieth anniversary of its admission into the Union as a state on the 28th.

THE meeting of the British Parliament has been postponed until February.

THE immigration into the United States in 1886 averaged 1,000 per day.

MRS. LOGAN.

In all of the sad pictures which a nation in mourning for Gen. LOGAN conjures up at this time, there are none which so touch its heart as that of the heroic wife in the first agony of her great bereavement. History does not furnish a brighter example of womanly self-abnegation and entire devotion than that of Mrs. LOGAN to her husband. For years, dating back to the day that they stood before the marriage altar together, she has been his strong right hand, entering into his life and purposes with a keen appreciation of his needs, with a power to adapt herself to circumstances, with an intellectual force united to graceful, ready tact, that it is given to few women to possess. Her influence over him was supreme, and she loved him with a strength and fervor that know no change nor failing. Gen. LOGAN'S quick, passionate, though always kind nature, frequently made him enemies, which she, ever watching, invariably turned into friends, for none but a pitiful nature could still think ill of a man who was so loved and honored by such a woman. Nothing that could work good or ill for her husband escaped her keen eye, and she was ready to seize the first and ward off the last, while he, giant that he was, walked onward, half of the time ignorant of what she was doing.

Her hopes and ambitions were solely for him, never for herself. There are none to say, no, not one, that Mrs. LOGA

A LADY'S STORY

Sitting in the pleasant parlor of her house in Saugerties, N. Y., Mrs. Catharine A. Wigram, a lady past seventy-five years, told to the writer the following story: "I suffered with a painful tumor also with constipation and rheumatism, kidney trouble and dropsy. However, better days were in store for me. My physician induced me to try Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy.

To Those Who Suffer From

these complaints, as I have, the result will be interesting, and for their sake I relate my experience. I had not used quite a bottle before the rheumatism in the hip and the kidney and dropsical trouble was relieved. Considering my advanced age I am fairly well; and I am assured by my physician, and know for myself, that my recovery is honestly attributed to Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy. I know Dr. Kennedy personally, and had from the beginning all the more confidence in Favorite Remedy."

J. H. Aitken, Hyde Park, N. Y., says: "As a cure for

RHEUMATISM

Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy has no equal. This I know from experience. For all bilious complaints there is nothing like it among all the medicines I ever used or knew of."

Send 2-cent stamp to Dr. David Kennedy, Rondout, N. Y., for his book on Kidney, Liver and Blood Diseases. Mention this paper.

Dr. D. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy,

Rondout, N. Y. All Druggists, $1; 6 for $5.

LINCOLN AND CHASE.

The Story by Which the President Answered a Constitutional Objection.

Amasa Walker, a distinguished financier of New England, had a thought that was new. He suggested that the notes issued directly from the government to the people as currency should bear interest. This for the purpose not only of making the notes popular, but for the purpose of preventing inflation by inducing the people to hoard the notes as an investment when the demands of trade failed to call them in circulation as a currency. The idea struck Mr. David Taylor, of Ohio, with such force that he sought Mr. Lincoln and urged him to put the project into immediate execution. The President listened patiently, and at the end said: "That is a good idea, Taylor, but you must go to Chase; he is running that end of the machine, and this is true to consider your proposition." Taylor thought the secretary of the treasury and had before him Mr. Walker's plan. Chase heard him through in a cold, unpleasant manner and then said: "That is all very well, Mr. Taylor, but there is one little object in the way that makes the plan impracticable and that is the Constitution." Saying this, he turned to his desk, as if dismissing Mr. Taylor and his proposition at the same moment. The poor enthusiast felt rebuked and humiliated. He returned to the President, however, and reported his defeat. Mr. Lincoln looked at the would-be financier with the expression at times so peculiar to his homely face that left one in doubt as to whether he was jesting or in earnest. "Taylor," he exclaimed, "go back to Chase and tell him not to bother himself about the constitution. Say that I have that sacred instrument here at the White House and am guarding it with great care." Mr. David Taylor demurred to this on the ground that Mr. Chase showed by his manner that he knew all about it, and he didn't wish to be bored by any suggestion. "We'll see about that," exclaimed the President, and taking a card from the table, he wrote upon it:

The Secretary of the Treasury will please consider Mr. Taylor's proposition. We must have money, and I think this a good way to get it. A. LINCOLN.

Armed with this the real father of the greenbacks again sought the secretary. He was received more politely than before, but was cut short in his advocacy of the measure by a proposition for both of them to see the President. They did so, and Mr Chase made a long and elaborate constitutional argument against the proposed measure. "Chase," said Mr. Lincoln after the secretary concluded, "down in Illinois I was held to be a pretty good lawyer, and I believe I could answer every point you have made, but I don't feel called upon to do it. This thing reminds me of a story I read in a newspaper the other day. It was of an Italian captain who run his vessel on a rock and knocked a hole in her bottom. He set his men to pumping and he went to prayers before a figure of the Virgin in the bow of the ship. The leak gained on them. It looked at last as if the vessel would go down with all an board. The captain at length, in a fit of rage at not having his prayers answered, seized the figure of the Virgin and threw it overboard. Suddenly the leak stopped, the water was pumped out, and the vessel got safely into port. When docked for repairs the statue of the Virgin Mary was found stuck headforemost in the hole."

"I don't see, Mr. President, the precise application of your story," said Mr. Chase.

"Why, Chase, I don't intend precisely to throw the Virgin Mary overboard—and by that I mean the constitution—but I will stick it in the hole if I can. The rebels are violating the constitution to destroy the Union. I will violate the constitution, if necessary, to save the Union; and I suspect, Chase, that our constitution is going to have a rough time of it before we get done with this row. Now, what I know is whether, Constitution aside, this project of issuing interest-bearing notes is a good one."

"I must say," responded Mr. Chase, "that with the exception you make, it is not only a good one, but the only way open to us to raise money. If you say so, I will do my best to put it into immediate and practical operation and you will never hear from me any opposition on the subject."—*Down Town in North American Review.*

A Logan Anecdote.

Numerous stories are told about Logan. One of them, which is relished by the politicians, is the remark he made some months after the Presidential election had been decided in 1884. The general had persistently refused to be interviewed. He came on to New York, and while here a friend asked him why he held his tongue. "Well," replied the general, "I am like the boy who stubbed his toe. You remember the story. A little fellow was sitting on a stump with his foot in his lap, when a farmer came along and asked what was the matter. The lad replied that he had stubbed his toe. The farmer rejoined that he did not seem to make much fuss about it, when the youngster said: 'Well, I am too big to cry and it hurts too bad to laugh.'"—*Philadelphia Press.*

—Summer coughs and colds generally come to stay, but the use of Red Star Cough Cure invariably drives them away. Safe, prompt, sure.

How Things Get Mixed.

"How are you?" said a bustling gentleman entering the private office. "You are the head of the institution, I believe?"

"We all," responded the inmate of the office, "I am sometimes."

"Ain't you Mr. Blank?"

"Yes, sir."

"I believe I did business with you as the head of the firm when I was here last."

"Yes, I believe you did."

"Has there been a change since then?"

"Well, not exactly. But we placed a lady at the head of the sales department not long ago and sometimes it's a little difficult to tell who is running the institution."

—To break up colds and fevers, use early Dr. Pierce's Extract of Smart-Weed.

Why Logan Wore Long Hair.

Gen. Logan, in a speech once explained his reason for wearing his hair long. He introduced the subject by playfully remarking that he sympathized with the popular sentiment about "long-haired cranks," and added that with him the fact was that his hair was so course and stiff that if he cut it short it made his head look like a shoe-brush, and that his only alternative was to let it grow long so that he could manage it.

All for Ten Cents.

A beautiful set of gold colored picture cards and a sample copy of the St. Louis Magazine sent for 10 cents. The magazine, just entering upon its sixteenth year, is $1.50 a year, and we send it and the WEEKLY BLADE one year for $1.75. For club of both send money to either BLADE or Magazine. For picture cards and sample copy of St. Louis Magazine, send to C. Gilmore, 213 N. Eight street, St. Louis, Mo.

Nature of Partnership.

There is a joint ownership of the firm property by all the partners, but joint ownership alone does not constitute a partnership. Merely sharing in the profits of the business does not make one a partner. Thus a business manager, or a confidential clerk, or person who receives a percentage of the profits as a part of his salary, or in addition to it, is not a partner, or liable to firm creditors as such. The test of partnership is a community of interest, an agreement to share both profits and losses, a right to a voice in the direction of the affairs of the firm.

—Bee Hives and Fixtures are now turned out in large quantities by E. T. Lewis & Co., of Toledo, O. Illustrated catalogue mailed free.

A Jump of 195 Feet.

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Jan. 3.—A man dressed in a dark suit committed suicide here to night by jumping from the railway suspension bridge into the rapids, a distance of 195 feet.

"The Matrimonial," 8-pages, 2c. Toledo, O

Sec. Lamar's Marriage.

MACON, Ga., Jan. 3.—It was announced Saturday that Mrs. Holt's daughters had withdrawn all opposition to her marriage with L. Q. C. Lamar, the secretary of the Interior, who is still visiting his friend, Col. W. H. Rose, and it is said that the marriage will take place this week. The secretary's friends say that when his marriage takes place the public will not be informed, but it will take place at Mrs. Holt's home, on Orange street, and none but the members of her family and a few intimate friends of the secretary will be present. Immediately afterwards the secretary and his wife will start for Washington.

Starvation in Texas.

FORT WORTH, Jan. 3.—The Fort Worth *Gazette* publishes the official report of the convention of county judges from the counties in the drouth district of Texas, held at Albany, this state. Twenty-one counties were represented in the convention. The total number of people in those counties in need of food, clothing and fuel is placed at 30,000, while thousands more are without seed to plant during the coming year. An appeal is made to the state and national legislatures and to the country at large to furnish at once $500,000 to relieve the immediate wants.

A Handsome Xmas Present.

No one in Chicago will have a more thorough and agreeable Xmas surprise, than Charles C. Ekholm, a young Swede, Art Amateur, living at 153 Townsend street. He has been notified that his one-fifth of ticket in the Louisiana State Lottery, that drew the First Capital Prize of $75,000, in the November drawing was successful, and in due time the $15,000 was placed in his hands.

This luck came to the right door, as with this money Mr. Ekholm will complete his Art studies. He is full of praise of the handsome way he has been treated by The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and his luck coming just before Christmas makes it doubly grateful.—*Chicago, Ill., Staats-Zeitung, Dec. 22, 1886.*

Pittsburg Sunday Laws.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 2.—The Law and Order Society inaugurated a war against Sabbath-breakers to-day, and as a result all the cigar stores, confectioners, and a large number of saloons were closed. Cigar dealers threaten to retaliate by stopping street cars and closing all kinds of business next Sunday.

—$1.25, $1, 75 or 50 cents buys a Syracuse Suspensory Bandage of quality corresponding to price. Try one. If not satisfactory return and money will be refunded. Mailed on receipt of price. Syracuse Mfg. Co., Syracuse, N. Y. For sale by druggists. Mention this paper.

Sen. Jones, of Florida.

DETROIT, Jan. 3.—Sen. Jones, of Florida, in an interview, announced that he will not go to Washington this winter after all, but he will stay in Detroit until the Florida legislature meets, when he will be a candidate for re-election. He had told his friends a month ago that he would occupy his seat in the Senate after the holidays.

Loss, $1,000,000.

ROME, Jan 3.—The fire in the Odescalchi palace yesterday was caused by lights on the Christmas tree. All the jewels belonging to the princess, all valuable pictures, and the whole of the splendid collection of ancient furniture on the second floor were burned. The loss is $1,000,000.

Mothers

Have you delicate CHILDREN WHO ARE CONSTANTLY TAKING ...COLD.. and subject to CROUP

YOU WILL FIND IN

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM

A SAFE AND SURE REMEDY.

THE PRICE 25¢. 50¢ & $1.00 PER Bottle

Brings it within reach of all

NO HOME SHOULD BE Without it

ALL DRUGGISTS SELL ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM

Publishers' Column.

The Most Liberal Offer Ever Made.

A Good Watch for an Hour's Work.

Any person—man, woman, boy or girl—who will raise a club of TEN for the WEEKLY BLADE, at its lowest and only price, One Dollar each, will receive a warranted Waterbury Watch, free, by mail.

To secure this valuable premium, the ten names must be sent in at one time, with the price, $10. No other terms will be regarded.

Any one can raise a club of Ten for the WEEKLY BLADE anywhere, in a very little time. It is easy to get subscribers for the BLADE, for everybody ought to have it, and 200,000 families will have it this winter.

Take hold at once and get your watch. We will mail them, in every case, the day we receive the club.

We warrant every watch we send. There is no way in which a reliable time-piece can be so easily obtained.

A warranted watch for Ten yearly subscribers to the WEEKLY BLADE.

IN THE MATTER OF SEWING MACHINES.

Thousands of the readers of the BLADE will buy a sewing machine this winter. What one will you buy? There are many good ones and many bad ones, some excellent for certain kinds of work, and good for nothing else, and so on. But all of them are sold at a high price, higher than they should be, and in most cases too high for the purse of the average woman.

The cause of these high prices is easily understood. It results from the method of selling. The manufacturer makes a state agent for his machine, who opens an expensive office in a large city, and he must have an enormous salary or large commissions to live at all. The state agent makes district agents, the district agents make county agents, and so between the manufacturer and the farmer's wife there are three commissions or profits, all of which the farmer's wife pays. This is why the cheapest machine, sold on that plan, cannot be sold for less than $35.

The BLADE does business in quite another way. The BLADE manufactures the best machine on the market. It is a machine built upon an entirely new principle, and well built. There is no trouble about the quality of the machine. Thousands of them are in use, and they give absolute satisfaction. (Read the two statements in advertisement on 5th page.) Now, this splendid machine, better for work and better in finish, than any now sold, the BLADE now sells for $18, and throws in the WEEKLY BLADE for one year. How can it be done? As easily as falling off a log. The BLADE Company employs no agents, but the machine passes directly from its own factory to the house of the purchaser. There are no agents between us and you, who have to be paid; there are no leeches to take the blood out of you. We want a small profit and get it, and you have all the rest.

It was to break the monopoly that the BLADE commenced this business, and it has succeeded.

Now what we want to say is this. If you want a machine that you may depend upon, and want it at a price that you can afford, send $18 to the BLADE, Toledo, Ohio, and you will receive one as soon as steam can carry it, and you will receive in addition, the BLADE one year. Moreover, if you want one this winter, make your order now. We shall be overrun next month with orders, and you may be delayed.

Remit now, and get your machine in time.

Address all letters to "BLADE," Toledo, Ohio.

THE BLADE'S PORTRAIT GALLERY.

We have published seven different portraits, which we offer to our readers at a price that will enable all to decorate their homes cheaply and well, viz:—

MILITARY HEROES—Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Logan.

RELIGIOUS HEROES—John Wesley, Charles Wesley, Martin Luther and John Calvin.

These portraits are all printed upon heavy plate paper, size 19 by 24 inches, just the size for framing for the parlor or sitting room, and good enough for any house in the land. They are all exquisite works of art, and are certain to give satisfaction. We pack them securely in pasteboard tubes and send them postpaid at the following prices:

Any one portrait	$ 25
The four divines	65
The four generals	65
The entire set of eight	1 15

Agents can do a good thing for themselves selling these pictures. Special rates made known upon application. Address

BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

Temperance Cartoons—To Temperance Workers and Organizations.

We have published for as near gratuitous circulation as possible, five striking cartoons, illustrating the working of Rum as opposed to Temperance, of which millions have been sold all over the United States. They are intended to instruct the people through the eye. They are as follows:

No. 1.—Do you see any good coming out of it?

No. 2.—Which way would you have your Boy Go?

No. 3.—Which way would you have your Girl Go?

No. 4.—In which village would you bring up your Children?

No. 5.—This Farmer never drank Whisky. This Farmer drinks all he can get.

These pictures are the most effective instruments that have ever been published. They contrast the life of the drunkard and sober man, in property, wife and children, so sharply that he who runs may read, and understand as well. Millions of them have been pasted up in shops, on fences and dead walls, where they may be seen of men, and millions more should be.

We have made a price on these cartoons, which barely covers the cost of paper and postage.

Three copies of either	6 cents.
Six copies	10 cents.
Twenty-five copies	30 cents.
One Hundred copies	One dollar.

This gives no profit, the price covering only cost of printing, paper and postage. We contribute wrapping-paper and labor.

Send in your orders immediately, and paste them up where they will do the most good.

BUNYAN'S PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.

This magnificent steel engraving has sold more than any picture we have published. It is a magnificent work of art, and worthy any home. It is a steel engraving, engraved by John Andrew for the New England Congregational Society, at a cost of $20,000. It is a complete illustration of Bunyan's immortal work, representing 100 of the scenes therein. The picture was originally sold at $1,000, and cannot be bought in art stores to-day for less. We send it to any address securely packed and post-paid for $1.25, or the picture and the BLADE one year for $2.00. It is a splendid work of art and should be in every home.

L. S. L.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $150,000.

"We do hereby certify that we supervise the arrangements for all the Monthly and Semi-Annual Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drawings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorize the Company to use this certificate, with fac-similes of our signatures attached in its advertisements."

G. T. Beauregard
J. A. Early

Commissioners.

We, the undersigned Banks and Bankers will pay all Prizes drawn in the Louisiana State Lotteries which may be presented at our counters.

J. H. OGLESBY, Pres. Louisiana Nat'l Bank.
J. W. KILBRETH, Pres. State Nat'l Bk.
A. BALDWIN, Pres. New Orleans Nat'l Bank.

UNPRECEDENTED ATTRACTION!
Over Half a Million Distributed

LOUISIANA STATE LOTTERY CO.

Incorporated in 1868 for 25 years by the Legislature for Educational and Charitable purposes—with a capital of $1,000,000—to which a reserve fund of over $550,000 has since been added.

By an overwhelming popular vote its franchise was made a part of the present State Constitution adopted December 24, A. D., 1879.

The only Lottery ever voted on and endorsed by the people of any State.

It never scales or postpones.

Its Grand Single Number Drawings take place monthly, and the Semi-Annual Drawings regularly every six months (June and December).

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A FORTUNE. FIRST GRAND DRAWING, CLASS A, IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, January 11, 1887 —200th Monthly Drawing.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $150,000.

Notice.—Tickets are Ten Dollars only Halves, $5. Fifths, $2. Tenths, $1.

LIST OF PRIZES.

1 CAPITAL PRIZE OF	$150,000	$150,000
1 GRAND PRIZE OF	50,000	50,000
1 GRAND PRIZE OF	20,000	20,000
2 LARGE PRIZES OF	10,000	20,000
4 LARGE PRIZES OF	5,000	20,000
20 PRIZES OF	1,000	20,000
50 "	500	25,000
100 "	300	30,000
200 "	200	40,000
500 "	100	50,000
1,000 "	50	50,000

APPROXIMATION PRIZES.

100	Approximation Prizes of	$300	$ 30,000
100	" "	200	20,000
100	" "	100	10,000
2,179	Prizes, amounting to		$ 535,000

Application for rates to clubs should be made only to the office of the Company in New Orleans.

For further information write clearly, giving full address. OFFICIAL NOTES, Express Money Orders or New York Exchange in ordinary letter. Currency by Express (at our expense) addressed

M. A. DAUPHIN,
New Orleans, La.

or M. A. DAUPHIN,
Washington, D. C.

Make P. O. Money Orders payable and address Registered Letters to NEW ORLEANS NATIONAL BANK, New Orleans, La.

REMEMBER That the presence of Generals Beauregard and Early, who are in charge of the drawings, is a guarantee of absolute fairness and integrity. That the chances are all equal, and that no one can possibly divine what numbers will draw a Prize. All parties therefore advertising to guarantee Prizes in this Lottery, or holding out any other impossible inducements, are swindlers, and only aim to deceive and defraud the unwary.

Photos for gents only. (No tights). Samples, SEALED 25cts; Lover's Package, 50c. Otway Nov. Co., Otway, O

CATARRH cured. Trial package FREE. Chicago Medical Ass'n, Chicago, Ill.

Sexual weakness cured; parts developed; manhood restored. Recipe free. L. Henry, 955 Lake St., Chicago.

Four Traveling Salesmen wanted at once, $35 a month and expenses paid. Address E. J. Smead & Co., East Wallingford, Vt.

FILL your own teeth with crystaline. Stops pain and decay. Lasts a life time. Circular free. T. F. Truman, M. D., Wells Bridge, N. Y.

FREE CLAIRVOYANT—Ladies consult free by letter. Gents charged. Gives your mother's name before marriage. References given. Mrs. W. Gray, 621 W. Van Buren St., Chicago.

LADIES—My French Regulation Pills never fail. Try them. Relieve pain, insure regularity, perfectly safe and harmless, sure to please. One year's supply sent in securely sealed package on receipt of $1.00. Correspondence confidential. Address Dr. D. H. Lowe, Winsted, Conn.

MEDICAL BUREAU "CASE 180."

All three prescriptions prepared according to formula of "Case 180," Eclectic Medical Bureau, for cure of Seminal Weakness, sent by express, $1.50. Suppositories by mail, 60c. J. H. McLann, druggist, 216 Adams street, Toledo, Ohio.

LADIES—My French Regulation Pills Never Fail. Try them. Relieve pain, insure regularity, perfectly safe and harmless, sure to please. One year's supply sent in securely sealed package on receipt of $1.00. Correspondence confidential. Address Dr. D. H. Lowe, Winsted, Conn.

LADIES—Use Dr. Peebles' Female Pills. Safe, sure and effectual. Price $1. Sold by druggists, or sent by mail. Address Peebles Medicine Co., Cincinnati, O.

$72 A WEEK. $12 a day at home. Samples worth $5 free. Address STINSON & CO., Portland, Maine.

$66 A WEEK in your own town. Terms and $5 outfit free. Address H. HALLETT & CO., Portland, Maine.

$5 to $20 per day at home. Samples worth $5 free. Address STINSON & CO., Portland, Maine.

$777 A YEAR and expenses to agents. Outfit free. Address P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

$250 REWARD for any case of Kidney Disease, Dyspepsia, Sick Headache, Constipation or Piles that Kidney-Wort will not cure when the directions are strictly complied with. Sold by druggists. Price $1.

$5 to $20 per day at home. Samples worth $5 free. Address STINSON & CO., Portland, Maine.

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BIG PAY for LITTLE WORK!

Every Friend of the Blade Should Read this Carefully

$2,000.00!

To Be Given Away in Premiums!

WHO WILL GET THEM?

The Blade Company wants to Give Away $2,000 in Valuable Property, which it proposes to do in this way:

WE OFFER—

For the largest number of subscribers sent us by any one person between the date of this issu and the First of May, 1887, A FIRST CLASS STANDARD PIANO, worth	$650 00
To the one sending us the next largest number, A CABINET ORGAN, worth	300 00
To the one sending the third largest number, A FIRST-CLASS SINGER SEWING MACHINE, worth	75 00
To the raisers of the next 25 largest, each A BLADE SEWING MACHINE, worth each	18 00
To the raisers of the next 50 largest clubs a choice of books, either "Andersonville" or "Nasby in Exile," worth each	3 50
To the raisers of the next 50 largest clubs, each a Waterbury Watch, worth each	3 50
To the raisers of the next 100 largest clubs a choice of the books "Social Etiquette," or "Health and Beauty," worth each	1 00
To the raisers of the next 100 largest clubs, a copy of the magnificent steel engraving, "Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress," worth $10 each, but sold by us at	1 00

Now, mind you, here are 328 premiums to be given 328 people, no matter how few subscribers they send in. We shall keep an accurate record of the names sent in by the contestants, and on the first day of May, 1887, the premiums will be awarded from our books. And please remember this: If you are going to send any clubs at all, you may as well try to reach one of these premiums. You get the commissions you are entitled to, in accordance with our terms to agents which have been sent all who applied for them, just the same. These premiums are over and above commissions, and have nothing to do with them. If you send ten subscribers you retain your commission just the same, paying you for your work, anyhow, and if the ten should entitle you to one of these premiums you get the premium in addition to your commissions. Now note

CONDITIONS:

Those intending to contest for these premiums should so state in each letter containing name and remittances, and the number of subscribers they have sent, that they may know, as well as ourselves, how many they are getting.

These premiums are awarded for yearly subscribers, but in the competition four three months subscribers will be allowed to count for one yearly, and two six months for one yearly. In these cases our three and six months rates must be observed.

If you send single names your commissions to be retained will be at the rate made known in our postal card to agents. When you remit in clubs of ten your commission will be larger, as stated in our terms.

We will not accept checks upon country banks, as it costs a heavy percentage to collect. Currency in registered letters, drafts on New York or Chicago, postal orders and postal notes are what we take. Never send postage stamps if you can help it.

These premiums will not be allowed the regular Subscription agencies. They are only for those who make an effort to earn them by extending the circulation of the paper.

Who May Secure These Premiums?

Any one who has a little time to spend in the day time or evening—school-teachers, farmers' wives or daughters, boys or girls, mechanics' wives or daughters, any one who has a little energy, and some acquaintance in a neighborhood. THE WEEKLY BLADE is the easiest paper in the world to canvass for. It is the handsomest, best-printed, best-edited, largest, and best paper in the world. Everybody knows of it, it needs no talking about, no introduction, but if any one wants a paper and knows the difference between a good and bad article they will take the BLADE at once. It has the largest circulation of any Family Newspaper in the United States, which it has attained solely on its merits.

Drop a postal card asking us to send special terms to Agents.

SPECIMEN COPIES

Will be sent to you in any number that you want. You should have specimens to show, as the showing of a specimen to a newspaper reader settles it. Send for as many as you can use, and they will be promptly mailed to you.

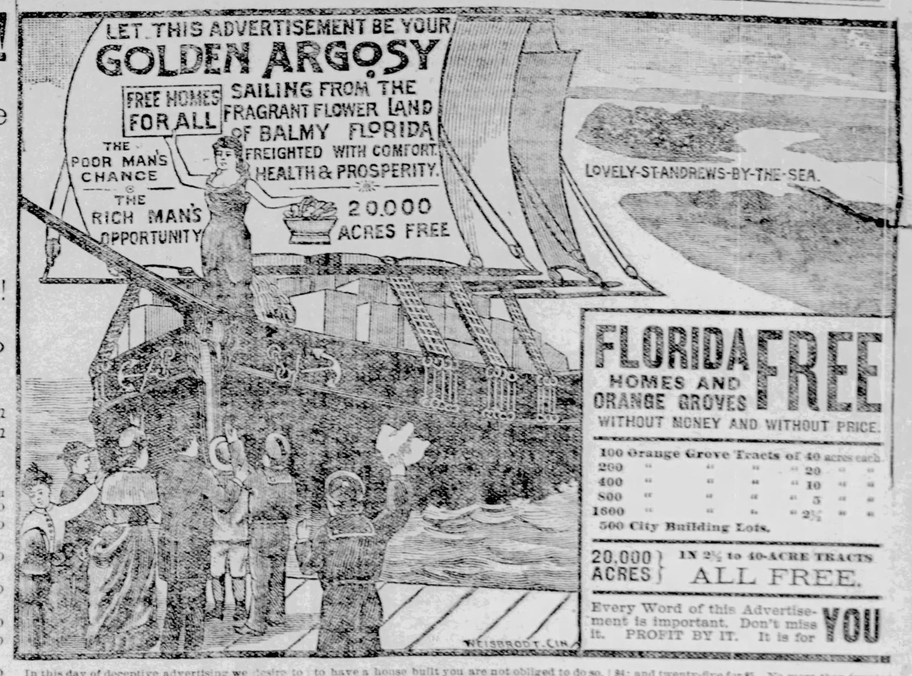
IN CONCLUSION.

Go to work now at once, and earn one of these premiums. Of course only a few can secure the big premiums, but if you don't get any, you will get good pay for what work you do. At least one person at every postoffice can make a very acceptable addition to their pocket-money this winter by canvassing for the BLADE, the old, reliable family paper of the United States. And it is not going to take very much work to secure the big premiums, or one of the smaller ones anyhow.

What we are after is a circulation of 200,000 before May 1, 1887, and we are willing and anxious to pay for the work of getting it. Those who want to participate in this work will get all the aid from us that they want.

Get at the work at once. Address

BLADE COMPANY,
TOLEDO, OHIO.



In this day of deceptive advertising we desire to impress that this announcement means exactly what it says, that every applicant can secure, absolutely free of any charge for the land, one of the above divisions of valuable Florida property. No juggling of words! It means exactly that—nothing less, nothing more.

OUR METHOD! NOTE ITS FAIRNESS!

We have just issued a large sheet of detailed House Plans, illustrating nine different styles of houses, costing from $300 to $1,500 each, which this company is prepared to build for its patrons at St. Andrew's Bay. In order to defray at least a portion of the very large cost of advertising, getting up these descriptive legal documents, Warranty Deed for each applicant, we will charge 25c. for mailing this sheet of House Plans to applicants. The Plans are worth $5 to any one who will ever desire to build a house. They are all new, and gotten up expressly for us. If you select from the House Plans any one of the suite you, we will build the house on your property, and give you one year's time to pay for the house, charging you 8 per cent interest on the cost of the house. If you do not care to have a house built you are not obliged to do so, you being left entirely free to decide for yourself when it is any way affecting the gift of the property—the property will be given to you FREE, whether you have a house built or not. With the sheet of House Plans will be sent a warranty deed, all signing of which will mean exactly that—nothing less, nothing more.

FREE LAND WARRANT

in a sealed envelope. Upon its receipt you will open the envelope, sign your name in full on the proper blanks, so that a warranty deed can be made out in your name, and return the same to us. A deed for the piece of land called for by the Free Land Warrant will be immediately prepared and forwarded you. No charge of any kind will be made for the Free Land Warrant—the property will be absolutely free. If your application is received after all the lots of five acres are disposed of, you will be so notified, and the 25c. you send for the House Plans be returned to you.

LOCAL COLONY CLUBS. Five sheets of House Plans and Warranty Deeds for deeds of five Free Land Warrants will be sent to any address, to be distributed among friends, on receipt of $1 for the House Plans; ten for $2; fifteen for $3; twenty for $4; and twenty-five for $5. No more than twenty-five are desired from any one person acting as agent for others. Deeds will be made as the Club Agent directs when the Free Land Warrants are signed.

YOU WILL BE A TRAITOR to your own interests and to those dependent on you if you fail to avail yourself of this Great Free Land Offer. Secure it for your children.

The St. Andrew's Bay Railroad and Land Company numbers among its officers and stockholders some of the most responsible and enterprising men of Florida, Ohio, and New York, who are called to the front, and have the means to back their every enterprise. We do business through the Second National of Cincinnati, and refer to two thousand prospective settlers at St. Andrew's. And now we await your pleasure.

Address our Northern Office, where all deeds are executed as to

The St. Andrew's Bay R. R. & Land Co.
227 Main St. Cincinnati, O.

Remit by postal-note, registered letter, or bank draft. Do not send stamps when it can be avoided.

TO BE READ IN CONNECTION WITH ABOVE.

TAXES All taxes have been paid on these lands up to March, 1887, and this Company will pay them again at that date to December, 1887, both on its own lands and those disposed of under this Great Free Offer.

GUARANTY We will buy any property disposed of under this Great Free Land Offer, that is substantially improved during the next two years, and pay at the rate of $10 per acre with the cost of the building improvements added. *By that time property will be worth $50 per acre.*

SHUT OUT This Great Free Land Offer is open to any body except those who are already located on Pensacola and Washington and Jackson Counties, Fla.

NO CONDITIONS There are no conditions connected with this Great Free Land Offer which can not be complied with. You are not required to move there, or improve a foot. This is a straight Speculation, upon its every one.

THE TOLEDO
ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS
UNDER CHARGE OF
Prof. E. H. OSTHAUS
AND
MISS AMY R. KIRKPATRICK.
NEW BLADE BUILDING, Toledo, O.

The best facilities for an Art Education in the United States.

A Collection of over 1,000 Paintings for the use of Students.

ALSO THE FINEST ART GALLERY OF OIL PAINTINGS IN THE WEST.

For Particulars, address

D. Knight Carter, Actuary
TOLEDO, O.

A valuable pamphlet on Art Education sent free on application.

MARVELLOUS MEMORY DISCOVERY.

Wholly unlike Artificial Systems—Cure of Mind Wandering—Any book learned in one reading. Prospectus with opinions of Mr. Proctor, the Astronomist, Dr. Brown, Judah P. Benjamin, Minnie Wood and others, sent post paid by Prof. Loisette, 237 Fifth avenue, New York.

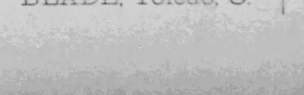
DON'T YOU MARRY,

At least until you have read our new book, entitled, "Perry Mason." Some marry too soon, others wait too long. This book will tell you how, when, and whom to marry; besides giving you valuable hints and helps not found in any other book. It contains 160 pages, paper covers, and is worth $30 to you. Sold by all booksellers, or mailed to any address, postpaid, for

J. S. OGILVIE & CO., Publishers,
31 Rose Street, New York.

$9.60 In Staple Goods PER. No jewelry. Every Man of Family, and Woman needs it. Sells every house, worth $9.60, sent free on receipt of the address of 10 young men and 25c silver to pay postage, packing, etc. This offer is made solely to introduce our goods and secure agents. Satisfaction guaranteed. We mean business. G. S. SHURTLEE, 1305 College avenue, Racine, Wis.

THE NUGGET SCARF PIN.



The setting of which is made of a bright, beautiful ring, so closely resembling gold, that the best judges can hardly distinguish the difference. Our regular price for this pin is 25c, but in order to introduce it into new localities, and secure agents, we will, for the next 60 days, send this handsome scarf pin with our large illustrated catalogue describing all our mineral goods, for 10c silver and three two-cent stamps. Address Terrill & Jay, 324 Stout street, Denver, Colo.

THE BEST
BOOKS
For the Winter.

The following books are of our own publication and give a variety of pleasant reading and valuable information that no family should be without. We make prices less than half of book store prices, and we prepay postage to your very door. Whether for family reading or presents to your friends, every reader of the BLADE should order a copy of each. Order one copy first, to see how much we give for the money, after which you will be sure to order the whole list:

ANDERSONVILLE:

A Story of Southern Prisons.

This book by John McElroy, who was 18 months in Andersonville and other Southern prisons, has had a sale enjoyed by but very few. It is a record of the author's terrible experience in those hells upon earth, and is written in a style that is absolutely fascinating. It is the only true record of the sufferings endured by our soldiers, in the military prisons. Regular price, $1. We now send it by mail for $1.25. A new edition just out. Every man, woman and every soldier's son should read this wonderful book.

NASBY IN EXILE.

The travels of D. R. Locke in Europe, one of the most entertaining books of travel ever written. Profusely illustrated by Darley. Original price $3.50. Present price, postpaid by mail, $1.25, or with BLADE one year, $2.10.

OLD DR. CARLIN'S RECIPES,

the best book of recipes and the most reliable ever printed. It has always sold for $2.50. Price now postpaid by mail, $2.00, or with BLADE one year, $2.85.

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The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON - - - - EDITOR.

HOME TALKS.

HOLIDAY TOKENS.

Floating down from the halcyon days of my childhood when the world seemed a treasure-trove of wonders, and the glimpses of its beautiful things set my childish heart dancing with delight, comes the memory of a room upon whose walls hung a single picture. It was not a painting—I smile now to think what a little inartistic thing it was, simply a pencil drawing by an amateur hand which possessed little cunning. A castle stood upon a wooded height. A brawling stream ran at its foot with impossible trees bending from the banks. Above, floated clouds the like of which no human eye ever saw. In the distance, shadowy mountains were outlined against the sky, suggesting stupendous heights. No vivid coloring was there to catch and hold the untaught eye, only the lights and shades made by black drifting into white, and white absorbed reluctantly by black. Yet that picture, meager in expression and rude in exterior as it was, was the center around which many an hour of childish day-dreaming revolved, and it was my first introduction to the wonderful picture world which has grown so rapidly with the passing years that the image of the little child wrapt in musings before a single pencil sketch seems an absolutely visionary one.

My experience was not exceptional, for until Prang opened the doors into the realms of art to people in moderate circumstances with his beautiful chromos, only those of large wealth could indulge in really artistic pictures. True, there were daubs in oil which pleased the untutored taste, but works that had a meaning, in which nature was so faithfully mirrored that the image seemed her very self, were rare and valuable. Not then as now could real gems of beauty be bought for a song That has only been lately made possible, and to many a soul hungry for the presence in their homes of the pictured glories of animate and inanimate nature, chromos come as a revelation of before undreamed of possibilities for the future. They have been art educators in the highest sense of the word. Into lives barren of all that is sweet and tender and grateful, they entered like dream angels, radiating light and loveliness into the hearts whenever the weary eyes rested upon them. It has become a fashion to scoff at chromos now, because they have been cheapened and coarsened by advertisers, degraded from their high estate, and other things have taken their places, but the work they did in awaking a love of art in the homes of the land was a wonderful one and its influence will not pass away.

One of the effects of thus arousing a sense of the beautiful and ministering to it in the way best calculated to give it strength and justice, is to cause a growth of kindly feeling in the hearts. You may have heard of the quarrelsome family, whose endless bickering drove all that was lovely out of the lives of its members. One of their few friends, who was going away upon a long journey, left a beautiful picture in their keeping and it was hung upon the wall of the living room. Strange as it may seem, the influence of its daily presence stilled the raging tempests, by bringing new and pleasant thoughts, that in their turn begot gentle words, and literally caused the fires of affection, which had almost burned to ashes, to become again alight upon the family hearthstone.

The progress of the education of a people in an appreciation and love of the artistic expression of truth and beauty is always marked by the desire to express gentle thoughts and tender feelings in sweet and graceful ways. The sending of Christmas cards was an outgrowth of this desire, and from being a rare and occasional thing, the exchange of these messages of good will has grown into a beautiful custom.

None can doubt its good effect upon social life. The peace and good will that radiated from the picture upon the individual family which was given up to angry strife is, in a broader sense, shed by these winged emblems of the tender meanings of the Christmas-tide. They speak of all the better things of life, of faith in the steadfastness of friendship, of good wishes for a happy future, and in their own way plead for a forgetfulness of all that is unlovely in the past The more beautiful they are in thought and execution, the stronger the impression of the messages they convey. It is by such influences as these that social intercourse becomes lifted out of the commonplace into an atmosphere of refinement and purity.

It seems to me then, that the designers of Christmas cards hold in their artist's hands a most potent power of doing good, and that their work should therefore be done as conscientiously as that of the minister or teacher, while there are certain qualities which they should always aim to make it possess. Each design should typify and idealize home life and influences; purity of sentiment should be expressed, that which will appeal to the nobler part of human nature; there should be an underlying thought, something beyond a mere surface meaning, telling a tender story to the heart of one who studies it intelligently; it must be thoroughly artistic in conception and execution, and it must have that harmony of coloring which has the same subtle effect upon the sense of sight as a perfect melody has upon the hearing. By just so much as it falls short of these requisitions the design is a failure. It is true that much is demanded, but it is also true that the matter is of no trifling moment, for aside from the passing social influence of Christmas cards, they are emphatically, and in the broadest sense educators of the public taste and morals.

Perhaps you who have never given the matter bought, regarding their sending as merely an exchange of pretty souvenirs, will wonder how this can be true, but remembering that they are sent and received when the heart is warm and tender, that they are cherished as tokens of kindly thoughts and affectionate regard, that their beauty arouses the imagination to a conception of what art can accomplish in making life better worth living each time that they meet the eye, and it is easily understood.

The same thoughts which ought to govern the designers of holiday cards should control the choice when purchasing them for friends. Get those which represent some lovely idea, something which, each time they meet the eye will uplift the spirit, and lead to gentle, kindly thoughts, generous emotions, and the broadest charity towards others. There are those which teach all this, besides cultivating a taste for what is really excellent in art.

I believe most thoroughly in these beautiful cards as an expression of friendly feeling at the holiday season. It seems to me that they say so much in a delicate way, just as flowers do, or luscious fruit. Much money or little may be expended upon them. That matters not at all. It is the heart message that is important, the something of grace and loveliness which reminds you through the year that you have a friend, that kind thoughts of you held sway and prompted the sending. In this world of care and disappointment, trifles like these go far to make up a sum of happiness which forms no trifling part of the success or failure of life. There are few indeed who do not find brain and body nerved to greater accomplishment by the knowledge that there are those who stand ready to laugh with them when they are glad, and to weep with them when sorrow holds them in its grasp, and it is because they are reminders of this rich possession that these pretty holiday tokens are so valuable. EMILY S. BOUTON.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

Kensington Embroidery Painting.—Art. No. 3. Painting moss roses: Geranium lake and white mixed is needed for painting the bud or blossom; for shading the flower use the geranium lake; the moss is painted with emerald green, softened by adding a little white to same; then yellow to get different shades. To get brown shades use raw sienna and raw umber; in painting the leaves use emerald green, with a little white and yellow added to lighten the shades; use the brush for this. This must be done before the outlines are painted, all outlines are done with the pen, representing the stitch. If you should first outline them paint you would be liable to touch the stitches, which would not leave your edge as neat when finished. In outlining the leaves use the emerald green; for veins use burnt umber; for the moss emerald green, with a little white and naples yellow.

The buds are done with emerald green and burnt umber in stitch form; remember that stems, buds, moss and rose is all pen work, also the outlines and veins of the leaves; the filling in of leaves is done with the brush. This design is beautiful for brush-broom holder, or pincushion or, in fact, anything almost. A cluster of roses with wheat and some fine flowers, such as forget-me-not or lilly of the valley, make a fine wall-banner. In my next I will describe those fine flowers. All questions cheerfully answered where an envelope and stamp accompanies the questions.—MRS. D., Lock Box 471, Orlando, Orange county, Florida.

To Make Hair Guards.—Get a round board 11 inches in diameter, with beveled edge and a hole 2 inches in diameter in center. At the outer beveled edge of the board make 36 grooves at equal distances apart, letting them surround the board. They should run up about half an inch from the lower edge of board, and their depth should be equal to the thickness of a knitting needle. Begin around the board to the left and number the grooves beginning with 1 and ending with 9, but giving the same number to 2 grooves, as 1, 1—2, 2, etc After you have reached the 18th groove begin with 1 again and continue as before till you reach 9 again and have finished. Taper board around hole in center. Wrap a coarse knitting needle about one-half its length with two or three thicknesses of black goods; sew it firmly so it won't slip; tie a small weight (a tap for one-half inch bolt will do) to lower end of needle wrapper. Get 36 weights made of wire as thick as four large knitting needles and three inches long. They should be bent a short distance from the middle so hair won't slip. Tie linen thread around the curve of each wire, wrapping several times. Tie hair to this thread and then wrap it around the thread leaving an unwrapped end about 3 inches long. This hair must be of uniform length and about the thickness of a pin, the locks six or eight inches long. Take about one-fourth of the curved wire weights and tie the 3-inch loose end of hair tight to lower end of the wrapping on needle, with the ends of the hair pointing downwards, or towards the tap weight. Then follow with the rest of the hair, spreading the locks around the needle evenly, so as to be distributed in the grooves of the board. Place the board on a jar about 9 inches in height. Place the needle in hole at center of board with tap weight hanging in jar. Put lock of hair in each groove, letting each lock extend from needle, over the surface of board, unwrapping locks from the wire weights till the latter hang about half way down on outside of jar. There are many stitches, I will give only two now. It takes two pieces of work to make a guard. Mount them where spliced. To make "wave" stitch: Place jar in front of you with the grooves numbered on the figures 1 next to you. Take in hand take a lock from grooves 1, and carry them around the needle in opposite directions, following around the outer edge of board. When you reach figures 1 on opposite side of board, place the locks at the left side of these opposite grooves. Now replace those with locks in the opposite grooves 1. Then begin with locks in grooves 2 and do the same. Continue this with each successive number till you have used about half of your hair. To make "honeycomb" stitch: Follow directions above, only skipping every alternate number. Begin with 1, then take 3's, then 5's, etc., so on. As your work progresses unwrap hair from wire weights. These two stitches may be made on the same piece of work. When your piece is about four inches long remove board from jar, pull out needle, tie the ends tight and trim. Do this with each piece and they are ready for mounting.—MRS. J. L. C.

Knitting and Crocheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit p, purl or seam st, stitch; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; t t o, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; c st, chain stitch; c l ch st, close chain stitch; d c st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c t st, crossed treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o s st, open-shell stitch; t, treble; sl c, slip crochet.

Lattice Edging:—This makes pretty trimming for flannel skirts, woolen house jackets, etc., of Saxony yarn or split zephyr. Cast on 23 stitches; knit across plain. 1st—slip 1—k 2—o—n—o—n—k 16; 2d—k 1—o 3—s k 1—o 3—repeat from * till there are 7 stitches left on needle, knit plain; 3d—s 1—k 2—o—n—o—n—slip off each stitch. 4th—knit plain. After slipping the first stitch, drop the 3 loops, slip the next and pull it up so as to make a long stitch; do this with the rest of the stitches and then there are 16 long stitches on the needle, put these 16 stitches on the other needle. Take the 5th long stitch, pull it over the first 4, knit it, then knit the 6th, 7th and 8th in the same way, then knit the first 4; the next 8 stitches are to be knit the same as the first 8 stitches; 4th—knit plain. Repeat from first row.

Infant's Knitted Band:—Cast on 135 stitches (on 3 needles). k 2—s 2, alternately; knit it 8 inches deep, bind off loosely; or it can be knit in brioche knitting, which is as follows: 90—k 1—n—* repeat from start to near, making same depth as given above.—MRS. J. C. MEINS.

Crocheted Slippers:—These slippers require 2½ ozs of zephyr, or one skein of Germantown. Make a chain of 11 or 13 according to size, crochet back in double crochet, turn, crochet back (using the outside part of the stitch to form the ridge,) widen once in center, turn, crochet back, widen near the center as possible. Continue till there are 13 or 14 ridges, turn, crochet back, and continue till the strip is long enough to go around the foot, then join, crochet a row around the ankle, catching in between the ridges, so as to run in an elastic. Crochet a full edge all around the ankle, and finish with bow of ribbon. Use cork soles lined with either Canton flannel or swan's down and sew to the slipper. Put the slipper at the toe and heel when sewing it to the sole and stretch slightly at the sides.—MRS. J. C. MEINS, The Dallas, Wasco Co., Or.

Correspondence.

THE TRAINING OF CHILDREN.—No. 10.—If you would have your children healthy, handsome and happy-tempered, see that their food is taken regularly, that it is palatable, and do not stint them, for the want of necessary food has no kindly influence upon the human system. Neither should they be overfed, for there is a very unpleasant penalty annexed to the folly of overstocking the table. The food should be plain but nutritious. As the taste for tea and coffee and spirituous liquors is unnatural and acquired, you would do well to teach them to avoid them entirely, and form no appetite for them; for it is conceded by the best physicians that tea, if long continued, will give the stomach a metallic lining, and that coffee is at least entirely unnecessary to the growing child, and often positively injurious. The mind acts upon the body, and the body upon the mind, and the food taken, out of which the blood is formed, exerts a powerful influence upon both body and mind. One who writes in regard to such matters says: "Every one who has the care of children ought to know that if they be permitted to eat very frequently, and with great irregularity, they will very soon be habitually tormented with a craving appetite, which, like the drunkard's thirst, is the more importunate and distressing the more it is indulged. Children of such habits are always far more unhappy and fretful and ill tempered and unmanageable and liable to disease than they would be if their dietetic habits were properly regulated. Some few of them, with good natural constitutions, by virtue of much active exercise in the open air, survive the perils of such a childhood, and perhaps never realize the bitter consequences of their early transgressions, till they have attained to adult age, and possibly not till they have reached the middle period of life; but a large majority of them are cut off by disease in some form or other before they are 10 years old. It is therefore not kindness, but abiding cruelty, in parents to beget and pamper such an unhealthy and mischievous appetite, which, like the consumption, seldom fails to destroy its virtue, and which children of well regualted habits never know. In information for the people we find this: Man, as an organized being, is subject to organic laws, as much as the inanimate bodies which surround him are to laws mechanical and chemical, and we can as little escape the consequences of neglect or violation of those natural laws which affect organic life through the air we breathe, the food we eat, and the exercise we take, as a stone projected from the hand, or a shot from the mouth of a cannon, can place itself beyond the bounds of gravitation You have the physical and mental health of your child very much at your own disposal. You can violate the conditions upon which the life of your child is held, or you can avoid all that is injuriousand pay judicious attention to all that is necessary for the preservation of its health. They need abundance of pure air, sunshine, proper exercise, frequent baths, and plenty of innocent amusement. And if every law of the child's being is strictly obeyed, you will find it more easily managed and less liable to fall into evil. I have fared upon simple diet, and he was a man that could stand before kings. Some persons think that a miracle was performed in his favor because he refused the king's portion, the meat and wine, but I do not, for he was chosen from amongst others on account of his comely appearance, and pulse and water had been his usual diet and drink. And those persons who fare upon simple food and abstain from all exhilarating drinks are the most healthful.

Adam Smith says, in his "Wealth of Nations," that "the most beautiful women in the British dominions are to be found in great part of the land, from the lower rank of people in Ireland, who are generally fed with the potato." Mothers are often complaining of their toils and cares, and I think often of what I heard a physician say once, that much of their time and energy are spent in getting up dishes full of dyspepsia and kindred diseases—highly seasoned dishes, of which their children partake to their injury. I read a few days ago a little story under the heading "Murmuring," that is so like the stories of so many mothers, the stories that so many tell, that I have heard so often, that I feel I had been familiar with.—MRS.

OREGON HOARDINGS.—Now the clouds are lowering, and the air is heavy with coming rain. Life in this Oregon climate gives one time for general meditation, for the present state of the earth and air prevents outdoor occupation or amusement, but enhances the comforts of home and the many good things for which life is worth the living.

I have been looking at the ocean—watching the white-crested billows as they rose and fell beyond the bar. I, for one, never grow tired of the ocean's beauty and grandeur, or weary of the many voices of the sea. It is ever new; and the many phases of nature, with varied phases of calm and storm, light and shadow, opens up a world of thought and enjoyment. And why should any one, with home, health and friends grow weary or lonely? This world is so beautiful, and produces so much that is good. A host within itself is the Toledo BLADE. As the years roll on by pleasant and familiar the heading becomes. Men and women are to be known by the company they keep even so by the literature they read, and the dear old BLADE in a household indicates the moral as well as the political state of the family. A chief beauty of the paper is its adaptation to all classes, and if the sometimes tired editor of the HOUSEHOLD could feel as her readers do the wealth of her writings, she would know there was something beyond the purchase of money.

I would like to tell the HOUSEHOLD of my Oregon dinner of to-day. The principal dishes were clam soup and roast salmon. The clams and salmon fresh from the bay, and very good, but no better than the nice bear meat which sometimes falls to our lot. Now, bears flesh is splendid when well cooked and placed on the table, but I do object to the animal in a live state, prowling around one's domicil. In the stilly hours of the night, 'tis more practical than poetical, and in the present case, stumps, fern-brake and bears, get a little mixed.

Christmas is coming; is almost here. Many will ponder over the coming holidays and think of the beautiful things to be given and received. Think of the happiness of giving, and the joy of dear one's would feel in receiving, but there is something money may not buy and the poorest may possess, a spirit of that great love and charity which will ever hover over the birthday of the Divine Friend of humanity. Happy is the man or woman who welcomes the day in such a spirit. With death or death is sweet, and this old world is crowned with that beautiful light which shone over Bethelem so long ago.

Christmas brings many dear memories. Then the scenes of early associations return with vivid force. Like unto the aroma of sweet flowers the incense of past happiness surrounds and enfolds the fair scene, and life seems a dream of the olden-time. In other days a mother's voice greeted the light of Christmas morning. Soft and sweet was the singing, and simple the words of the old-fashioned hymn, but in memory's most sacred chamber the old song is yet sung—perhaps a refrain from the dear voice which is now singing above. But this is a world of change, of grand possibilities, for joy and happiness if love and charity abideth, and may all enjoy a happy Christmas.—BARBARA ALLEN, Netarts, Oregon.

CARE OF MOCKING BIRDS.—In reply to Mrs. Flo Schaffer in regard to mocking birds, I would say: 1. Get as large a cage as you can. The perches should be nearly an inch through and round; smaller perches are apt to make the bird have corns. Sand the cage every day if you can; if not, put in brown or any unprinted paper as the printers ink sometimes poisons them. Also scrape the perches with an old knife kept for the purpose. Once a week the cage must be thoroughly washed, the perches also; the latter must then be dried on top of a stove and greased with mutton-tallow, to prevent corns and mites. If your bird be tame, put a wash-basin on the floor and he will soon learn to hop in and wash himself three times a week, at the least. Besides this bath the bird must have a daily sunbath which he enjoys so much that he gets right on his back in the warm sand. The food they like best is flour-maggots; you can get these at any flour mill, and, with a few for a start, can keep yourself supplied in this wise: put a few in some flour, in an old tin can or box, put a damp flannel on them; they multiply rapidly. Two or three times a week give the yolk of a hard boiled egg, mix with potato (boiled) or grated raw carrot. They eat all kinds of vegetables as prepared for the table, but no highly seasoned, and are fond of all kinds of fruit. I give my mocking bird bread and milk every day—he likes it and it agrees with him. Occasionally give a little fresh meat. When three years old or more a mocking bird will sometimes cease to sing. Examine the tongue, and if you find a horny substance encasing or growing on it, catch your finger nail under the back of it, and pull it off. By this means a mocking bird has been known to sing until 21 years old, a gentleman of Council Bluffs being the owner of a bird that age that still sings. Change of climate does not seem to affect them materially. Mine was brought from Arkansas when a few weeks old. He throve in Iowa, seemingly enjoyed a trip to the Pacific coast, basked in the suns of California a year, and now flourishes well in Dakota Territory. He is allowed the freedom of the grounds afternoons when I am at liberty to be there with him; and if you will let yours out in the room where you are at work, you will be surprised how tame the little creature will become; also at the rapidity with which he dispatches flies on the window, and any stray spider he may find. While moulting they do not eat as heartily, nor do they sing. After this period they begin their twitterings and seemingly begin at the beginning, and learn to imitate over again, just like a young bird.

Would like to hear from others on this subject.—MONTIE BABBE, Sedgwick, Hyde county, D. T.

Inquiries.

1. Will some one tell me how to bottle horseradish for keeping without spoiling?

2. In passing a silver cake dish at table is it proper to catch it by the handle or stem; also, pickle caster?

3. What color of Diamond dyes will change ligh blue into any color than black, and what color will it be?—AGNEZ.

Will some reader of the BLADE tell me if a change of climate would be of any benefit to one that is subject to phthisic?.—M. E. H.

Will some one tell me what will stop hair from coming out?

Will some one give directions for making flat hair guards?

Can any of your readers tell me through the columns of the BLADE what will cure nervous headache?—MISS S. U. L.

Will some one who reads the BLADE that lives in California, please send their name to the HOUSEHOLD that one may correswith them to get information about their state?—ONE WHO THINKS OF GOING THERE.

Will some one please send directions for making feather edge and novelty braid trimmings?—HYACINTHUS.

Will the editor or some kind sister please explain the "star stitch" in crocheting? Can you print the picture of lace instead of giving directions?—MERTIE CLARK.

We cannot illustrate patterns.—ED.

Will some of the ladies of the HOUSEHOLD please tell me of a sure cure for moles? I have several on my hands.—MARY.

Will some one tell me what is the matter of my canary bird? The feathers are coming off of the back of its head and on its neck in quite large places so it is bare. I feed it well and it seems to have a good appetite, is quite hearty. Do birds ever lay too many eggs? This has laid 34 since it commenced in the spring. I tried to have her raise some birds but the eggs did not hatch. She is a beautiful singer and I am quite anxious to know what to do for her. Some tell me she will lay herself to death.—MISS MINA NETTLETON, Twelve Mile, Smith county, Kan.

Is it proper for a lady to help a gentleman on with his overcoat?

What is good for a very red complexion?

Is bay rum whitening to the skin?—JEAN.

It is not considered etiquette for a lady to assist a gentleman with his overcoat unless he is aged or an invalid.

Send to the Locke Publishing Co., Toledo, O., and get "Social Etiquette," which will help you about social matters. It will be sent you post-paid for $1.—ED.

Will "C," of Cedarville, N. J., please report result of prescription given for gray hair in the Medical Bureau of October 14? —JAP AND FRANK'S MOTHER.

Answers to Inquiries.

"Several Ladies" desire an answer to the following questions:

Is it proper for one who is in black to make calls socially, after the first three months, or while wearing mourning? Should they accept invitations to lunch, or tea?

Is it proper to attend receptions, and wear a black veil? Is it in good form to make calls formally during the week between Christmas and New Year's?

Calls may be made upon friends and acquaintances after the period named, but rigorous etiquette demands that those upon strangers shall be omitted until later. An invitation to a small luncheon or tea party, at a friend's, may be accepted with propriety. While wearing deep mourning and heavy black veil, no large receptions should be attended, nor should one go to the opera, theater, dress party or dinner. The reason for this is given in "Social Etiquette:" "In a place where all is gaiety, where people only go to be amused, deep, black garments look out of place. In fact, there is something exceedingly incongruous in it with such surroundings."

Mourning etiquette is much more rigid in Eastern cities than further from the seaboard, and yet even there, in the most private circles good taste dictates shall be observed if deep mourning is assumed, and the absence of such observation is sure to be regarded as a want of feeling or an absence of knowledge of what is proper.

There is no law of etiquette laid down by the best authorities upon social matters that forbids making calls between Christmas and New Year's, if pleasure or convenience demands it.—ED.

I would say to "Distressed Mother" in BLADE of December 6, that diluted carbolic acid will cure goitre or swelled neck. Must be weak at first making it stronger at each injection. Have a competent physician to inject the acid.—MRS. J. K. DAVIS, Clear Lake, Wisconsin.

If "Distressed Mother," in BLADE of Dec. 9, 1886, will write to me, enclosing stamp, will give her a formula for the cure of goitre or thick neck.—MRS. ROY W. RHONE, Kearney, Buffalo county, Neb.

I should like to say to "Distressed Mother" that if she will get at a druggist's 2 grains of iodine and 4 grains of iodide of potassa dissolved in 2 ounces of water and apply to the neck with a small brush morning and evening and give 5 drops in water after each meal (dose 2 times a day) in 3 days she will, I think, find she will cure goitre.—M.

I would say to Miss L. W. C. Gardner, Washington C. H., Oo., that if she will write to Mrs. Mary A. Coburn, Douglass, Buttes county, Kan., I can find a good place for the boy spoken of.—M. N. C.

In answer to "A Washerwoman:" Starch as usual and dry, then starch again in this: Take 1 teaspoonful of corn starch and wet it with cold water, then add 1 pint of boiling water, stirring all the time and then add a piece of lard the size of a small hickory nut. Let them be for a few hours and iron as usual until dry. Put them on a bosom board, take a cloth, dip in water and wring out and pass it briskly over the front until it is just damp, then use the polishing iron, lightly at first, for fear of scorching, then as it becomes dry, can press harder. This gives the polish that is put on at laundries and removes all stains and keeps them nice and white.—MRS. L. J. B.

If the sisters of the HOUSEHOLD that are piecing crazy quilts will piece them in one block as large as they desire the quilt to be, I think they will be piece pleased than by making small blocks and joining. I finished mine with a ruffle of lace, and quilts of same width of pink satin. All pronounce it lovely, and it took the first premium at our fair.—MRS. L. J. B., Lafayette, Ind.

Let "A Subscriber," whose parrot pulls out her feathers, try feeding her fat meat and butter and bones. I have a cockatoo that used to break off and pull out feathers. I learned, by letting him come to the table, that he is fond of butter and fat meat, and have let him eat all he wants of those articles, and none he does not trouble for the change, and so give the fat the credit, though it may not have anything to do with it. My bird is also fond of syrup, of which he has a little nearly every morning when he comes to the table.—A. B.

Recipes.

A complaint reached the HOUSEHOLD of errors in some recipes given. Mistakes will occur sometimes, for it would be impossible for the editor to test each one, or even to study it to see if it is perfect. We try to be as careful as possible in their printing, but we must ask our friends to write them very plainly and carefully. It is sometimes very difficult to make out just what is meant.—ED.

Cake Without Eggs.—1 pint of flour; 1 cupful of sugar; 1 cupful of sweet milk; 1 teaspoonful of cream tartar; ½ teaspoonful of soda; piece of butter half the size of an egg; sift cream tartar, sugar and flour together; flavor to taste.—ELLA.

Cream Cake.—3 eggs, 1 cupful sugar, 1½ cupfuls flour, 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder, 2 tablespoonfuls cold water, *no shortening*; make 4 layers; for filling, beat white of egg stiff, add powdered sugar, size of a thimble, 1 tablespoonfuls corn starch, 2 tablespoonfuls sugar. Set in a dish of water and let boil till clear and thick, let cool a trifle, then add 1 teaspoonful ext. lemon. Put together while warm; let stand till next day before cutting.

I wish to tell "Flora" how I fix my pies to prevent the juice running out. Take a strip of bleached factory cloth, about one inch wide; wet in cold water and wrap around the edge of the pie when ready for the crust, the same piece may be used several times if not too badly scorched.—MOLLIE.

Currant Cakes.—1 lb. of flour; ¼ lb. butter; ¾ lb. sugar; 4 eggs; ½ lb. currants well washed and dredged; ½ teaspoonful soda dissolved in hot water; ½ lemon, grated rind and juice; 1 teaspoonful of cinnamon. Drop from a spoon upon well buttered paper lining a baking pan. Bake quickly.—LULU MAY WHIPPEY, aged 12, Oak Run, W. Va.

Walnut Catsup.—Beat 100 green walnuts in a marble mortar until they are completely broken; then put them in a stone jar with half a pound of eschalots cut in slices; one head of garlic, half a pound of salt, and two quarts of vinegar. Let them stand ten or twelve days, stirring them night and morning. Strain off the liquor and boil for half an hour, adding two ounces of anchovies, two of whole pepper; half an ounce of cloves, and a quarter of an ounce of mace. When it is well strain, and when cold pour it carefully from the sediment into small bottles; secure from the air by sound corking and store in a dry place. The sediment is usually reserved for flavoring sauces.

Pop Overs.—Take 4 cupfuls of flour, 4 eggs, 4 cupfuls of milk, a piece of butter the size of a small hen's egg, melted, and one-half teaspoonful of salt. Bake in small tins.—MINA.

Frozen Fruit Cream.—Mix 1 lb. of fruit with 1 qt. of good, fresh cream, sweetened to taste. Press all through a fine sieve and put in a freezer and proceed as with ice-cream. If put into fancy molds, freeze first, and then pack well in the forms and put back in the ice and salt.—JULIA.

Pork Cake Without Eggs.—1 lb. fat pork chopped fine; pour on 1 pt. boiling water; 1 cupful of molasses, 2 of sugar, 1 cupful of raisins, 1 of currants; cinnamon, cloves, allspice and nutmeg to taste; flour to make stiff enough for cake; teaspoonful of soda; is good without fruit.—S. P.

Mince Meat.—A reader asked for a recipe for mince meat. I have a splendid one I will send. It is: 6 lbs. of lean beef, 3 lbs. of finely chopped lean beef, 2 lbs of finely chopped beef suet, 1 peck of tolerably sour apples, 2 lbs. of raisins, 2 lbs. of dried currants, 1 small teaspoonful of cayenne pepper, 1 teaspoonful of salt, 2 tablespoonfuls of ground cloves, 4 tablespoonfuls of ground cinnamon, 4 large nutmegs grated, 1 qt. good cider vinegar, 3 qts. Orleans molasses; use some of the beef liquor when you mix it, keeping it warm; pack in jars; will improve with age.

Tell "Flora" to wet the edge of her pie crust with water before putting on the top crust and press together with a fork.—A NEW HOUSEKEEPER.

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: "Of Ourselves We Will be Masters."

Pledge:

We do hereby promise ourselves that, from this time until we are 21 years old, we will not taste intoxicating liquors of any kind, and that we will exert all our influence to prevent their use by others. Witness our names:

LODI, O.	ROSENDALE, MO.	SOLSBERRY, IND.
Fred Marlnee	Mary Gauger	Chas Hannum
Allie Parmalee	Lily Cornelison	Harry Baldridge
Ollie Carter	GertieCornelison	Henry Dudley
Myrtle Burr	Grace Watson	H Aldridge
Myrtle Carpenter	Joey Watson	Louie Shields
Myrtle Rogers	Charlie Watson	Otto LaRue
Grace Grandy	Maggie Agee	Bessie Frame
Etta Griffin	Minnie Brown	Chelie Crane
Charley Griffin	Cora Heavlin	Stella Weaver
Lanie Feazel	Essie Heavlin	Jas Lindsey
Bertha England	Cora Chapman	Bertha Edwards
Frank Reynolds	Nellie Chapman	Ettie Edwards
Howard Shaw	Edgar Chapman	Corenna Barnes
Chas Wertz	Sammy Corder	Minnie Barnes
Lewis Parker	Alvin Colburn	Jas Barnes
Herbert Jason	Effie Colburn	Ethel Elliott
Clara Mellinger	Bertha Colburn	Cora Hueger
Ada McDowell	David Laney, jr	BRAINARD, KAN.
Mottie M'Laughlin	Mary Deardorff	C A Terbush
Jennie Wertz	Geo Newman	Alice M Terbush
Dora Reynolds	Harvey Newman	Edwin H Terbush
Edgar Neal	Ettie Newman	Etta E Moore
Mark Seeley	Ora Newman	Melina M Carlson
John Myers	Vie Barnes	Gracie J Taylor
Fred England	Lizzie Ennis	Willie E Moore
Lonnie Fleming	Emma Barnes	Bessie B Turner
Vernie Vndern'k	Jimmy Lucas	Effie Moore
Frank Clark	Oliver Gamelich	Gracie Fitch
Minnie Jordan	Carl Gamelich	Addie M'Craner
Mabel Jordan	Allie Roberts	Edith D McCraner
Roy McLaughlin	JENKINS, MO.	Howard Taylor
COLLEGE HILL, ILL.	Thos S Hallie	OTTAWA, KAN.
Sarah Rice	Maggie Boucher	Winnie Hodge
Charlie Gaston	Jessie Boucher	Florence Hodge
Frank Guyinon	Carrie Huse	Artie Hodge
Nancy Gunmon	Alcy Bailie	Minnie Hodge
Richard Guymon	Alcy Bailie	Al Hodge
Bertha Guymon	Lily Hutchinson	Ella Hodge
Ida Durall	Alex Huse	CENTRALIA, KAN.
John Ayre	Maureen Crawford	Ginger Gewett
Charlotte Ayre	Lou Hutchinson	Mella Jewett
L Cunningham	Lizzie Redding	Emma Jewett
Carrie Cunn'gh'm	Sarah Boucher	Minnie Jewett
Willie Durall	Chloe Redding	WADESBURG, MO.
Frank Love	Caroline Fly	Una Tom
S Cunningham	Ida Knight	Ernest Tom
Maud Cun'ngh'm	Jas M Allmon	Clara Robinson
Iva Watson	Elmer Brown	Nellie Robinson
John Boggs	Laurence Crawford	Vaile Robinson
Rosa Andrews	J W Bailie	Eliza Emery
Scott Lyon	G Hutchinson	Mertie McKean
Willie Boggs	Willie Bailie	Laura Robinson
Geo Williams	Henry Redding	Addie Forsyth
Eddie Hale	Sarah Boucher	Maud Forsyth
CURRAN, IND.	C A Bailie	Wm M Munger
Osmer L Skinner	M E Boucher	Annie Wehmeyer
Willie Jones	Mary E Bailie	Norma Repner
Dixie Skinner	H H Boucher	David Bailie
Geo A Leffler	J H Boucher	Bessie Little
Ida Blair	S A Bailie	Albert Bastin
Angie D Smith	Mary J Bailie	Essie Austin
Minnie Phillips	E A Wade	Eric Battin
Fimma D Smith	Ida Huse	MILAN, O.
Sarah Phillips	Sabina Bailie	Oscar N Canning
Francis Palmer	Becca Boucher	Aural A Sandy
Otto Palmer	W A Bassett	McIvin A Bloom
Jessie Curds	Lou Boucher	Harold A Bloom
Thos Marshall	Mattie Brown	Myrtle Bloom
Arthur W Smith	Sallie Knight	Dell Lyon
Med N Keyes	Laurin Brown	Daisy M Wright
Jennie Leffler	David S Brown	Grace D Wright
Henry Gardner	Sanit Redding	Walter R Wright
Harry D Smith	Willie Bailie	Everett Wright
Ella M Marshall	Olney Huse	Dick Wright
SMITH CENTER, KAS.	Sarah Hutchinson	Thos V Fellows
Nella McNair	L T Boucher	J T Fellows
Annie McNair	Lisha Fly	Geo Chichister
Emily E Smith	Ada Hutchinson	Sidney Mosher
Delta B Wells	Eddie Hutchinson	Ollie Thompson
Eddie F Wells	S S Hutchinson	P B Michener
Alice Samuelson	W Hutchinson	Loretta Daley
Lily Ball	LEXINGTON, IA.	Forrest Daley
Herbert Smith	Harry Reynolds	BARAGA, MICH.
Willie Logan	Susie May	S. N. Y.
Nancy Carmich'el	Jonathan May	W C Rice, jr
Ella Carmichael	Thos May	Sammy Miller
Ida Frazier	Richard May	Willie Vosburgh
Dora Taylor	Nicholas May	Harry Pahlbrooks
LIMA, O.	HEXFORD, MICH.	Lindley Beach
Nathan Daniels	Alfred J Knowles	Tom Hall
Minnie Daniels	LEASBURG, WIS.	Frank Sheldon
Agnes Daniels	Edith M Alter	Lee Gray

Names this week, 562. Total, 16,960.

The above embraces all names received up to December 15.

"NIGH AND BY."

BY A. D. T. WHITNEY.

A beautiful plaything is a drawer;
A beautiful book on a shelf;
Mamma will bring them to read and to show her,
She may not have them to read herself.
Precious treasures hidden and high,
Held by the promise of "by and by."

"Nigh and by?" says the child,
As she lets them go
And folds her hands with a quiet look,
"Nigh and by, mamma—when I grow!"

"Ain't they your owny-donty, they?"
A playmate teases one day;
"I wouldn't care for pretty things, when
They are always just so far away."
It never has come to her so, before;
She waits a minute, ponders it o'er.

Then—"Nigh and bye!"
Rings cheery and true;
"You see they are owny-donty, now;
Nigh and by they'll be owny do!"

Baby wisdom is an angel grace;
And the lisp, translated, new
Promise that speaks in the Father's face,
Hidden from me and you.
Heart that yearns for its pet-away,
The sweet child syllable learn to say!

For "by and by,"
If we search it through,
With its double saying of "soon" and "nigh,"
Is dearer synonym than we knew.

WHAT JESSIE FOUND IN FAIRY-LAND.

BY SYDNEY DAYRE.

"Then you do not want a party, Jessie?"

"No, mamma dear, I don't think I do. I have have had so many parties, you know."

"Nor a Christmas tree?"

"No; we had one last Christmas. Christmas trees are all alike—just lights and tinsels, and books and toys, and things full of candy."

"I wish there was something you did want, little daughter." And mamma looked at Jessie with a perplexed expression, and Jessie looked dolefully into the fire.

"Jessie," went on her mother, "would you like that picture we were looking at the other day?"

"No, mamma; I have so many pictures now."

"Then what can I get you for Christmas, dear?"

"I don't think I want anything, mamma." Jessie shook her head mournfully. Here was trouble indeed, and a trouble for which there seemed no help. A little girl, only nine years old, suffering for want of a want.

"Mamma," she said, presently, "I'd like to go to the Christmas pantomime to-night."

"Jessie, you may. Jane shall take you."

Seated in a row of faces bright as her own, Jessie gazed for a few moments, at a picture-curtain, and then gave a start as it suddenly rose and went up out of sight. At the same time the brilliantly lighted hall was darkened, and Jessie held her breath as she gazed upon the stage, and could see far away into—what? it was the very Fairy-land she had so often read of in books.

Nowhere else, surely, could such marvels be seen. Such flowers and such trees never grew in any other land Great waxy Blyonds stood proudly up by red and white rose-buds, and trumpet-creepers with their clusters of scarlet flowers drooped over rocks and beside water falls. And Jessie could actually

The Farm.

Information Wanted.

INDIGESTION.—READER, Kiowa county, Kansas. We think your mare is suffering from a certain form of indigestion. Give her this: Raw linseed oil, 16 ounces; oil of aniseed, two drachms; spirits of sweet nitre, two ounces. After it has operated give this: Bicarbonate of soda, half an ounce; powdered gentian, half an ounce; powdered nux vomica, 20 grains. Give this amount twice daily for three days, omit for three days, and then give for three days more. Feed regularly of nutritious food, moderate in quantity. Examine mouth and teeth to see if she can properly masticate her food. A horse affected with indigestion needs the best of grooming and care. As to expelling worms, as good a thing as any is calomel, one drachm; tartar emetic, one-half drachm; linseed meal, one ounce Mix and give in feed at night, and repeat the dose two or three times. Then give, six hours after the last powder, 16 ounces of raw linseed oil.—ED.]

ELI BOBBS, Montpelier, Ind.: Your chickens have roupe, to cure which see recent numbers of the BLADE.—Ed.

DEAD CALVES:—Please tell me if you can, (through the columns of the BLADE) why so many of our cows have dead calves. The cows are pastured in a field of native grass. (Buffalo grass.) During the summer there is 960 acres in the field. Are turned into our alfalfa field in winter. There is 135 acres of alfalfa stubble besides corn and oats stubble. Are kept in good condition the year round. Have free access to plenty of water all the time, and are fed alfalfa hay for three months, commencing January 1, each year. The heard consists of 40 cows, 25 yearlings, and we have 15 living calves this year, and 12 that come dead. They have been well taken care of, and each cow separated from the herd as soon as she loses her calf.—JAMES ROSS, Plattsville, Colorado. [The matter of abortion frequently becomes epidemic among cows, one after another aborting without the cause being discovered. In the endeavor to find out the cause, the food should first be examined. It has been conclusively proven that wet, frosty, or mouldy fodder, smutty or mouldy grain, ergoted corn or rye, or too rich food are predisposing causes. Foul atmosphere in cow house or field, decaying animal matter, refuse from slaughter houses should be guarded against. The most important cause is the odor of the lochia, or uterine discharges of the cow in abortion. This is exceedingly offensive to cows. On approaching the odor they become very much excited, and the influences on their uterine organs is such that in a few days, one or more, are likely to abort, and thus the disease is spread until at times every cow in the herd that is with calf drops her fœtus. When the least signs of aborting manifest themselves, the cow should be removed from the others. The signs are: Cow is off her feed; is listless and dull; milk dries up; lies down longer than usual; walks with staggering gait; paws the ground; belly slightly altered in shape and somewhat enlarged; slight discharge of glary, whitish fluid from the vagina. When any cow is found showing these symptoms, place the cow entirely away from the herd. As soon as abortion begins proceed to deliver the fetus at once and bury it deeply in the ground, sprinkling it with chloride of lime. The vagina should be syringed with chloride of lime and water—an ounce of the former to a quart of the latter. If in a stall, clean it thoroughly and for at least a month keep the cow away from the herd. In discussing this question, Dr. Tellor says: "The whole herd should at once be put upon doses of chlorate of potash—half an ounce daily—which, it is believed, has proven to exert a beneficial influence." The cow should not be allowed to run the risk of becoming a mother until in heat the third or fourth time. If she then aborts, the only way is to fatten and kill her. Two important avoidable causes are recognized. One is a deficiency of mineral matter in the food, which may be remedied by giving each cow during her pregnancy, one quart of corn meal with a teaspoonful of fine finely ground bone every morning. The second precaution is to have a bull who is not exhausted, and should not have been with a cow for a least a week. He should be allowed with the cow only in the evening, and but once. Then stable the cow by herself during the night. Only six weeks before calving, and during the entire time of pregnancy do not allow teasing by bull or steers.—ED.]

SUBSCRIBER, Forest Grove, wishes some reader of the BLADE to tell him how to fatten horses, how to make hens lay in winter, and how to make good butter.—ED.]

W. W. NELSON, Sykeston, Dak.: For your horse that passes blood-red colored urine and has a delicate appetite, give, first, powdered aloes, 4 to 5 drachms; cream of tartar, 1 ounce. Repeat dose if it does not act in five or six hours. It should be mixed in a pint and a half of warm water. A soap and water injection, in which there is an ounce or oil of turpentine, should also be given. After the effects of the first dose, this: Sulphate of iron, 2 drachms; powdered nux vomica, 1 drachm. Give as a ball three times a day for three or four days. Give the horse rest and plain diet.—ED.]

INDIGESTION.—Can you, or any of your readers, tell what is the matter with our cow; and what will cure her? She don't chew her cud evidently, and something she is swelled up as tight as a drum, frequently throws up all her food; has been in this condition for about six weeks; is getting very poor, and her milk is about dried up.—R. DOUGLASS, Cornwallis. [Your cow is suffering from indigestion. Give her three times daily, in three feeds of a pound, mixed with a cupful of molasses. After this has operated, give the following, to enrich the blood: Sulphate of iron, two drachms; powdered nux vomica, one drachm, powdered gentian, one ounce. This amount daily in dry food, or as a drench, for a week. Suspend for a week, and then give for three or four days more, and we think your cow will come around all right.—ED.]

LOCO.—Please state in your farm columns what the enclosed plant is, and what effect, if any, it has on stock when eaten by them?—M. H. JONES, Gaylord, Kas. [The specimen of plant you sent is called loco. A very good description of the plant was given by Dr. Lester D. Ingham, in the issue of the BLADE, and this week under the head of "Answers to Inquiries." Mr. O. J. Stoker, Kiowa county, Kansas, contributes further information, which will be read with interest. The paper you sent a specimen to for identification should have given you an answer at once, as it is located near where loco grows.—ED.]

Answers to Inquiries.

LOCO.—This is a plant, and resembles the catnip leaf. The loco does not grow high, the longest blades or stems seldom exceed twelve inches. Range cattle and ponies are very fond of it. Horses and mules brought from eastern states seldom if ever taste it. I have been here over two years and my stock will not eat it. I have enquired of stock or ranchmen who have been here ten and fifteen years. Their experience is this: That in the fall of the year, or, in some cases, the loco remains green (as it does all winter); the stock begin eating it, and the taste of loco to stock is as tobacco and liquor is to man. The stock hunt for loco and eat nothing else. Consequently they become poor and will keep hunting loco and growing poorer till they die, or get on the loco feed. I am told that six months feeding dry feed will cause them to loose all taste of the loco. Loco causes abortion, but is not sudden death to stock as many suppose. My stock graze over hundreds of plants every day.—O. J. STOKER, Kiowa county, Kansas.

Middle Tennessee.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—Middle Tennessee is undoubtedly one of the best and surest fruit sections in the United States. Being a Northerner and having observed closely all differences in crops here and North, and especially in fruit I am willing to yield the superiority to this state. An orchard in this village was put out a year ago last April, and this fall several trees of the Ben Davis variety bore 30 apples each, well developed and of excellent flavor. I am told that after the third year apple trees bear regularly. Can any one North, East or West, do better than that? The same man that owns the orchard has also a young vineyard, and on October 15 last, I was walking with him through it, and was astonished to find upon the vines fully half a crop of really fine grapes.

The varieties are Concords and Ives Seedling, and the owner assured me it was no unusual thing for his vines to produce two crops a year. The flavor of the grapes was perfect and except that the berry was rather small one would hardly distinguish them from the first crop. As a rule fruit does best on hilly land, but this orchard and vineyard are upon very level land.—V. S. PEASE, Summertown, Tenn.

Ramie in California.

Upon the subject of ramie as a crop in California, now attracting attention, the San Jose *Mercury* says: Mr. Clendennin attended the exposition at New Orleans, and saw samples of Ramie from Louisiana, Mexico, Jamaika and California, and his opinion is that the Blakersfield exhibition was the finest of all in weight, quality and general characteristics. If Kern county can produce ramie Santa Clara county certainly can, and our farmers who are enterprising and believe in diversified industry should look into the matter to the end that they may benefit themselves and the county and state as well. There is money in the ramie plant, and since it has been clearly demonstrated that the fabric can be thriftily manufactured, there seems no good reason why attempts at ramie cultivation in this valley should not be made. Ramie is a perennial plant of the nettle tribe, without prickles. The roots are planted, and each root sends up several stalks from five to six feet in height. Twice or three times a year the stalks are cut and put through special machinery, by which the bark is kept and the stock rejected, and the fiber produced from the bark on the flax principle. The fiber is then treated with chemicals and bleached. It requires a temperate climate, such as that of Louisiana, where it is being extensively planted, or California, to which it would appear to be well adapted. The soil must be light and moist, but not swampy. It came originally from the island of Java. It is thought that this product will not take the place of cotton, but will occupy a field of its own. It is especially useful in the manufacture of fabrics that are desired to be strong and durable, or others in which glossiness and fine texture are taught, such as velvet, plush, cloth, cassimeres, and the like.

English Sparrows Must Go.

At the recent annual meeting of the Indiana State Horticultural Society, some one mentioned the English sparrow, and a discussion was precipitated. Mr. Warder, of North Bend, Ohio, had found them both fruit and grain eaters. They had been very destructive to his grapes. They seldom eat insects, but will feed them to the young. Mr. Ratcliff, of Wayne county, had seen flocks of several hundred alight on his wheat field, five miles from any town or city, and eat the waste grain from large areas. They beat the ripened grain from the stalk with their wings. They were still more destructive to grain in shock. Mr. Folger said that they had driven away 200 martins that formerly sheltered in his barn. Mr. Ohmer formerly had plenty of song birds on his place. Now there was only the sparrow and robin. The time had come when something must be done. Mr. Webster had recently made an extended visit through the agricultural sections of Europe. Found that sparrows were everywhere regarded as a nuisance. In Germany he saw boys carrying hundreds of them, strung on sticks. They were taken to the village authorities, and the boys received a half cent for each one killed. They were paying for their destruction every where. They were becoming very destructive in his locality. He had found their ravages on his green peas particularly annoying. After further discussion in similar strain, and some words in their defense by Pres Johnson and one other member, J. C. Stevens, of Wayne county, introduced a resolution declaring them a nuisance, and urging extermination, which was passed with but one dissenting voice.—*Prairie Farmer.*

The Potato Disease.

Take a microscope and examine the floculence on the diseased patches of diseased potatoes; you will find the author of the malady. There are two fungi which cause the mischief. Both are very minute. One of them, the *Peronospora*, appears like a finely-branched thread of spun glass. As the thread grows, it branches and each branch bears seeds at its end. As the seeds are thrown off, the branches extend and produce others to the number of seven or eight. When the spores fall, they commonly burst and discharge several other spores or seeds. These latter, when examined under the microscope, are seen to be furnished with two lashes or cilia, with which they rapidly propel themselves through water or on any damp surface. Not to follow these spores through the process of generation, it is enough to say that the result is a seed capable of living without germination for a couple of years. In fact it usually reserves this process for some future autumn. All this is very curious, but is very practical as showing that the potato disease can not be cured in a hurry, or by any superficial measures.

The second fungus (*Fusisporium*) looks, under the glass, like transparent wheat. Each ear is divided into four parts. These multiply in the summer, and when they drop upon a moist surface they speedily become globular in form. They rest for days, weeks or months, and at length reproduce the original fungus; and like the original, these minute spores have the power of bringing decay to the plant by contact. When the fungi outside of the tubers and bulbs are destroyed by unfavorable weather, these sleeping spores doze away in a quiet existence, or else proceed to spawn. As both these mischievous spores and their spawn winter in decaying potato refuse, the farmer can see a useful point. No spoiled potatoes or vines should be permitted to remain on the ground, or on dung-heaps, through the winter. All diseased tubers, stems and leaves, should be committed to the flames.—*Our Country Home.*

Winter Wheat.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—The weekly crop statement of the *Farmer's Review*, of this city is as follows:

The returns from the correspondents very generally continue to speak favorably of the prospects for winter wheat. In Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio the fields are generally well protected with snow, though in Bond and some of the southern Illinois counties, fields are reported to be covered with ice, and several Missouri counties report the fall-sown wheat suffering from dry cold. The reports from Kansas as to wheat are not so uniformly as favorable as formerly, several counties reporting that the plant looks feeble and poorly. The feature of the reports from Indiana and Ohio is that all the early-sown grain is looking very well, while the late-sown wheat is looking poorly. The reports from all the corn-growing states agree in a short supply and a generally slow movement to market. Many counties of Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin are importing corn.

A WILLING VICTIM.

Oscar Cook's Confession in the Express Robbery Case.

LEAVENWORTH, Dec. 30.—Mrs. Wittrock, the mother of "Jim Cummings," was seen at her residence last night. She was very unwilling to say anything about the arrest of her son, but was anxious that the public should know the real cause of the robbery. She said that she had wondered from the first what prompted the robbery, and the first question she asked her son after he had been brought to his home by the detectives, was: "Why did you take the money?"

She says he answered that he was greatly worried because the time was growing so short when the $1,700 mortgage on his home, to secure which she had borrowed and loaned to him, would become due, and he was not making money enough out of his business to pay her. So, instead of allowing the homestead to go to sale, he made up his mind to make a desperate effort to save it, and finally decided upon the plan of robbing the express car.

It is stated that Oscar Cook made a confession Tuesday morning, in which he stated that Fotheringham, the express messenger who is now in jail, charged with complicity in the robbery, knew all about the plan of the robbery, and was a willing victim. It is said that he was promised $10,000 of the amount stolen as his share of the booty, and that was a part of the money which Fred Wittrock sent to his mother for safe keeping.

A special from Kansas City states that it was the intention of the conspirators to rob the car on the night of October 22, and that the first "Jim Cummings" letter was written before that time, and dated on that day. On that night, however, there was not enough money in the car to pay the robbers for their trouble, and their plan was not finally carried out until the 25th.

Should these statements be borne out by the facts in the case, Fotheringham will doubtless accompany his fellow-conspirators to the penitentiary.

The New South.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 29.—In its annual review of the industrial progress of the South, the Baltimore *Manufacturers' Record*, in this week's issue, will say that 1886 has been a most remarkable year in many respects in the history of the Southern states, and more has been accomplished for the prosperity and progress of the whole South than ever before in any year. The amount of capital, including the capital stock of incorporated companies, represented by new manufacturing and mining enterprises organized or chartered in the South during 1886, including enlargement of old plants and rebuilding of mills, aggregate $129,226,000, against $66,812,000 in 1885.

Fire at Greensburg, Pa., destroyed the Laird House, a four-story hotel, the *Press* office, and eight other buildings. Loss about $60,000.

—For 20 years Henry F. Baloom, of Shirley, Mass., suffered with rheumatism. He found no relief till he took Hood's Sarsaparilla.

BETHLEHEM'S STAR.

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Soon after the white-bearded astrologists kneel, and from leathern pouch chink the shekels, and from open sacks exhale the frankincense and rustle out the bundles of myrrh. The loosened star, the escaped doxology of celestials, the chill December night all the way from out there, the young lost star, and another star rushing down the sky that night to beckon the wanderer home again, shall yet make all nations keep Christmas.

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It is stated that Oscar Cook made a confession Tuesday morning, in which he stated that Fotheringham, the express messenger who is now in jail, charged with complicity in the robbery, knew all about the plan of the robbery, and was a willing victim. It is said that he was promised $10,000 of the amount stolen as his share of the booty, and that was a part of the money which Fred Wittrock sent to his mother for safe keeping.

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The unusual appearance that night may have been a strange conjunction of worlds. As the transit of Venus was foretold many years ago by astronomers, and astronomers can tell what will be the conjunction of worlds a thousand years from now, so they can calculate backwards, and even infidel astronomers have been compelled to testify that about the year one there was a very unusual appearance in the heavens. The Chinese record, of course entirely independent of the Word of God, gives as a matter of history that about the year one there was a strange and unaccountable appearance in the heavens. But it may have been a meteor such as you and I have seen flash in the horizon. Only a few years ago I saw in the western sky a ball of fire that did fall with such brilliancy and precision that if I had been on a hill as high as that of Bethlehem on which the shepherds stood, I could have marked within a short distance of the place of the alighting. The University of Iowa, and the British Museum have specimens of the aerolic stones picked up in the fields, fragments flung off from other worlds, leaving a fiery trail on the sky. So that it is not to me at all improbable, the stellar or the meteoric appearance on that night of which we speak. I only care to know that it was bright, that it was silvery, that it flashed, that it was resplendent, that it halted, and joy celestial, as though Christ, in human form to save our world, had rushed down without his coronet, and the angels of God had hurled it after him! Not a black cloud of threat, but a bright star of hope, is our glorious Christianity. One glimpse of that stellar appearance by the soul of the sick and dying college student until the words flashed from his pale fingers, and the star seemed to pour its light from his white lips as Kirke White wrote these immortal words:

"When marshalled on the mighty plain,
The glittering hosts bestud the sky,
One star alone of all the train
Can fix the sinner's wandering eye.
Hark! hark! to God the chorus breaks,
From every host, from every gem,
But one alone the Savior speaks,
It is the Star of Bethlehem.

Once on the raging seas I rode,
The storm was loud, the night was dark,
And ruin'd blew from shore to shore
That tossed my foundering bark;
Deep horror then my vitals froze,
Deathstruck, I ceased the tide to stem;
When suddenly a star arose,
It was the Star of Bethlehem."

Notice also in this scene that other worlds seem to honor our Lord and Master. Bright star of the night, wheel on in thine orbit! "No," said the star, "I must come nearer, and I must bend, and I must watch and see what you do with my Jesus." Another world that night joined our world in worship. That star made a bow of obeisance. I suppose no more sublime sight in Christ's dominion as though it were to be merely the few thousand miles of the world's circumference; but I believe the millions and billions and the quadrillions of worlds are inhabited—if not by such creatures as we are, still such creatures as God designed to make, and that all these worlds were represented in the Bethlehem worship. Newton, and Kepler, and Herschel only went on Columbus' voyage to find these continents of our King's domain. I think all worlds are loyal but this. The great organ of the universe, its pedals and its pipes and its keys, are all one great harmony, save one injured pedal, save one broken string—the fugitive and the vagabond in Egypt, but it was typical of the fact that Christ's way shall be paid all around the world. The gold for Christ, the silver for Christ, the jewels for Christ. The bright, round, beautiful jewel of a world set like a solitaire on the bosom of Christ.

But notice that these wise men also shook out from their sacks the myrrh. The cattle came and they snuffed at it. They did not eat it because it was bitter. The pungent gum resin of Abyssinia, called myrrh, brought to the feet of Christ. That means bitterness. Bitter betrayal, bitter persecution, bitter days of suffering bitter nights of woe. Myrrh. That is what they put into His cup when He was dying. Myrrh. That is what they put under His head in the wilderness. Myrrh. That is what they strewed his path with all the way from the cattle-pen in Bethlehem to the mausoleum at Joseph's country seat. Myrrh. Yea, says the Psalmist, "all thy garments smell of myrrh." That if what the wise men wrapped in the swaddling clothes of the infant Christ. That is what Marys twisted in the shroud of a crucified Christ. The myrrh. Oh, the height, the depth, the length, the breadth of a Savior's sorrow! Myrrh. Well might the wise men shake out the myrrh.

But I notice, also, from another sack they shake out the frankincense. Incense up to the rafters of the barn the air is filled with the perfume, and the hostlers and the camel drivers in the further part of the building inhale it, and it floats out into the air until passers-by wonder who in that rough place could have ly accident dropped a box of alabaster.

Frankincense. That is what they burned in the censer in the ancient Temple. Frankincense. That means worship. Frankincense. That is to fill all the homes, and all the churches, and all the capitals, and all the nations, from cellar of stalactited cave clear up to the silvery rafters of the starlit dome. Frankincense. That is what we shake out from our hearts to-day, so that the nostrils of Christ once crimsoned with the hemorrhage of the cross shall be flooded with the perfume of a world's adoration. Frankincense. Frankincense in song, and sermon, and handshaking, and decoration. Praise Him, mountains and hills, valleys and seas, and skies and earth, and heaven—cyclone with your trumpets, northern lights with your flaming ensign, morning with your castles of clouds, and evening with your billowing clouds of sunset.

Do you know how they used to hold the censer in the olden the olden times? Here is a metal pan and the handle by which it was held. In the inside of this plan was put living coals. On the top of them a perforated cover. In a square box the frankincense was brought to the temple. This frankincense was taken out and sprinkled over the living coals, and then the perforated cover was put on, and they were all ready for worship. Then the cover was lifted from this censer and from all the other censers, and the perfumed smoke arose until it hung amid all the altars, and then rose in great columns of praise outside or above the temple, rising clear upward to the throne of God.

So we have two censers to-day of Christmas frankincense. Here is the one censer of earthly frankincense. On that we put our thanks for the mercies of the past year, the mercies of all our past lives, individual mercies, family mercies, social mercies, national mercies, and our hearts burning with gratitude, send aloft the incense of praise toward the throne of Christ. Bring on more incense, and higher and higher let the columns of praise ascend. Let them wreathe all these pillars, and hover amid all these arches, and then soar to the throne.

But there is the other censer, of heavenly thanksgiving and worship. Let them bring all their frankincense—the cherubim bring theirs and the seraphim theirs, and the one hundred and forty-and-four thousand theirs, and all the eternities theirs, and let them smoke with perfume on this heavenly censer until the cloud canopies the throne of God. Then I take these two censers—the censer of earthly frankincense—and I swing them before the throne, and then I crush them together in one great Alleluia unto Him to whom the wise men of the East brought the gold, and the myrrh, and the frankincense, when "the star which they saw in the East went before them."

News of the Week.

THE LOGAN FUNERAL.

Exercises at the Late Residence of the Deceased and at the Capital—A Touching Tribute by Rev. Dr. Newman—The Logan Fund—The Cause of the Death—Unpublished Orders.

AT THE LOGAN MANSION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—A sheet of fresh fallen snow covered the ground this morning; and the weather was cold, raw and sombre. At the Logan mansion all preparations for the removal of the dead statesman had been perfected during the night. The remains still lay in the chamber where the general died; but had been placed in the casket, ar elaborately draped receptacle, whose hermetic inner casing of copper was concealed by its quilted lining of creamy satin, and whose plate glass top, not yet in position, was designed to reveal the entire length of the form within.

A square plate of silver in the middle of the cover bears the inscription:

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...KA.

...L. Howard—What ...Interior of Alaska, Where ...hines at Midnight—Character- ...of the Natives—Two Months With- out Bread.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—Ensign William L. Howard, U. S. N., who recently returned with Lieut. Stoney's exploration expedition from Alaska, is at the naval hospital, Brooklyn, suffering from the effects of the journey of a thousand miles which he made overland from Fort Cosmos to Point Barrow. The journey was through a part of Alaska never before explored, and for a great part of the time Ensign Howard lived among natives who never before had seen a white man. Mr. Howard said to a reporter yesterday:

I left for the Cosmos on the Putnam river, on April 12, taking with me F. J. Price, a man whom I selected because of his reliability and his sturdy physique. Through everything that occurred afterwards I always had cause to congratulate myself upon my selection. I was ordered by Lieut. Stoney to journey across the country to Point Barrow and explore that interior section of Alaska, of which little or nothing was known. We started with two sledges and sixteen dogs. The traveling over the mountains was pretty rough, as we frequently got caught in a blizzard before we could reach the valley. Every mountain we came to we would have to unpack our sledges and carry the cargo over on our backs, the dogs following with sledges themselves. When caught in a blizzard we had to lash our sledges and baggage together and tie ourselves to the sledges to avoid being blown away. I struck the Colville river, and explored its head-waters, sledging for seven days on its frozen surface.

The natives, as a rule, treated me with the greatest kindness, and did everything in their power to assist me on my journey. By some mysterious means whenever I arrived at a village the inhabitants had been informed that I was coming, and turned out en masse to receive me. Those tribes who had never before seen a white man took the greatest possible interest in the personal appearance of Price and myself, but they are a stoical race, and tried their best not to let me see their surprise at my white skin and light hair. Even those tribes which had never seen a white man before had tobacco and rifles obtained from other tribes which traded with the coast Indians. They are a very diminutive people, and are more like the Esquimaux than they are like the North American Indian. They are excessively fond of tobacco—men, women and children smoking. I have seen a mother take a nursing child from her breast and put a pipe in its mouth, that the little creature might enjoy a few whiffs.

Leaving the Caldwell river, I crossed the mountains and discovered a river which the natives call the Ikpikpuk. I forbore the natives call the Ikpikpuk. to name it after this river, leaving that for the navy department to do. My provisions having now run low, Price and I were living on one "flap-jack" a day. The natives had got out of food, and were living on some decayed and putrid seal blubber. It was useless to try and push north until the river should open, and we could catch fish to live on. Price and I having eaten our last flap-jack, found some roots which did not go bad at a pinch, though really I should have preferred a Delmonico dinner. I determined to explore the river I had discovered, and so pushed my way to its headwaters, followed by my natives, and there encamped from May 25 to June 3. The natives fed on the putrid seal blubber, and Price and I ate roots until June 3. Then the birds began to fly and we were fortunate to shoot some. The river opened, too, and we caught some fish.

The natives bore their hardships without a murmur, and took everything as a matter of course. The way they treated their women is simply abominable. One day, when we were making a particularly hard march, I noticed a woman who was about to become a mother and had difficulty in keeping up with the party. Suddenly the Indians halted, and some of the men dug a cave in the snow and threw some skins into it. Then down came the woman in and resumed their journey. I tried to prevent their leaving the poor creature there, but they insisted upon going on. We encamped that night about six miles from the place where we had left the woman, and at 12 o'clock that night she came into camp, bringing with her her new born babe. The next morning we started on our journey. I offered her my sledge, but neither she or the rest of the tribe would hear of such a thing, and she trudged along contentedly with the other women all day.

When the ice broke up on the Ikpikpuk we floated down to the Arctic Ocean, a distance of 200 miles, in boats made of dried skins. Near its mouth the river expanded into a series of shallow lakes, some of them five miles wide. At the mouth of the river we met a tribe of coast Indians, and even they seemed to know of our coming. Here an old woman brought us some flour, the first we had seen for about two months. I could only give her a plug of tobacco to repay her for her lonely journey of 50 miles to our relief.

It was midnight, and the sun was shining brightly—if you can imagine such a thing—when, having completed my voyage in a skin boat along the Arctic coast, I walked up to the house at Point Barrow and knocked at the door of the officers in charge. All little, and was speechless with astonishment to see two white men standing there. When he had partially recovered he exclaimed:

"Where in blazes did you come from, and who in blazes are you?"

I answered: "From Fort Cosmos, and I am Mr. Ensign Howard, United States navy. When do you have breakfast?"

He gave a shout that brought the other two inmates of the house to the door, and oh! what a breakfast they did give us! I went to bed at 8 o'clock, but it seemed so nice to have all I wanted to eat once more that I just lay awake until lunch time.

A CHILD THIEF.

A Little Girl Employed to Steal Purses from Ladies.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—For several weeks past lady customers in Macy's store have had their pocketbooks stolen from their shopping bags. On Monday a little girl with long hair and quite good looking, aged about 11 years, was caught in the act of stealing a purse from a lady's bag. She was searched, and $118 was found in her stockings.

The child was kept at the store until the afternoon. A woman then came in, claiming to be her mother, and asserted that she had given the child $200 to purchase things. She indignantly demanded the child's release. This was refused, and she left. Later she came back with her two band, and admitted that she was not the child's mother. The child was released, and the money kept to pay the robbed ladies.

The girl was again arrested, yesterday. Her name is Lillian Smith. She confessed that the woman—Mrs. Annie Smith—had got her to leave home and steal purses in Macy's. Mrs. Smith was arrested and is now in jail.

A Dizzy Ride on a Wildcat Train Down the Rocky Mountains.

TORONTO, Dec. 31.—A thrilling account of a trip on a wildcat train down the Rocky mountains, is told by Wm. Tillie, a traveler, who has just arrived here by the Canadian Pacific railway from British Columbia.

Last week two cars of a passenger train, while being hauled up the steepest grade in Kicking Horse pass, which is one inch to the foot for nearly two miles, broke loose from the locomotive and commenced a mad career down the mountain side. The brakes were frozen, and could not be applied with effect. Some of the twenty occupants in the cars tried to rise, but the speed was so great they could not stir from their seats. The cars reached a safety switch, a distance of two miles from the place they broke loose from the locomotive, in one minute. The passenger car caught the safety switch and was piled on the opposite incline, a complete wreck.

The baggage car, which did not contain any passengers, went on down the main line, and did not leave the track. A number of passengers were killed, and others received probably fatal injuries. Some miraculously escaped, almost uninjured.

Indians Disturbed.

TAHLEQUAH, I. T., Jan. 4.—The Cherokees, and in fact, the five tribes, feel uneasy on account of recent telegrams sent from Washington in regard to the Creek delegation not acting with the delegates from the other four tribes—the Cherokees, Choctaws, Seminoles and Chickasaws. It is said that the Creek delegates are in favor of selling the Oklahoma country, the sale of which the other tribes most bitterly oppose, as they deem it an entering wedge toward disrupting the whole territory.

The Reagan Bill.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 4.—The Chamber of Commerce committee on Transportation made a report on the Reagan inter-state commerce bill, now before Congress, consisting of a resolution which disapproves of the short and long haul provision of the bill, and asks that Congress be requested to refer the bill back to the committee, in which case the chamber will send a special committee to Washington to present arguments in support of this resolution. The report was adopted.

...$	250,000,000
...	737,781,850
...	63,899,000
...entos at 4 per	190,100
...sion fund at 3 per	14,000,000
...the railway bonds at 6 per cent.....	64,623,512
Principal.....$	$1,130,449,462
Interest.....	11,838,720
Total.....$	$1,142,333,182
Debt on which Interest has Ceased Since Maturity.	
Principal.....$	8,874,855
Interest.....	211,336
Total.....$	9,086,191
Debt Bearing No Interest.	
Old demand and legal tender notes.....$	346,378,341
Certificates of deposit.....	6,510,000
Gold certificates.....	97,215,605
Silver certificates.....	117,246,670
Fractional currency, loss.....	8,375,934
Estimated as lost or destroyed.$	6,953,702
Principal.....$	574,664,318
Total Debt.	
Principal.....$	1,714,033,635
Interest.....	12,030,057
Total.....$	1,726,083,692
Deductions.	
Less cash items available for reduction of the debt.....$	241,902,564
Less reserve held for redemption of U. S. notes.....	100,000,000
	341,902,564
Total debt—less available cash items.....$	1,384,181,128
Recapitulation.	
Net cash in the treasury.....	$42,196,632
Debt less cash in the treasury January 1, 1887.....$	1,341,984,496
Debt less cash in the treasury December 1, 1886.....	1,351,342,693
Decrease of debt during month.$	9,358,202
Cash in Treasury Available for the Reduction of the Public Debt.	
Gold held for gold certificates actually outstanding.....$	97,215,605
Silver held for silver certificates actually outstanding.....	117,246,670
U. S. notes held for certificates of deposit actually outstanding.....	6,510,000
Cash held for matured debt and interest unpaid.....	20,924,912
Fractional currency.....	5,376
Total available for reduction of the debt.....$	241,902,563
Reserve Fund.	
Held for redemption of U. S. notes, acts of January 14, 1875, and July 12, 1882....$	100,000,000
Unavailable for Reduction of the Debt.	
Fractional silver coin.....$	25,660,935
Minor coin.....	131,422
Total.....$	25,792,357
Certificates held as cash.....	35,024,236
Net cash balance on hand.....	42,196,632
Total cash in treasury as shown by treasurer's general account.....$	444,915,788

GEN. LOGAN'S DEATH.

No Authority for the Statement that He Was Dosed With Opiates.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—It has happened in late years that after the death of public men some reports have gained circulation that the medical treatment was not what it should have been, and that members of the family were not satisfied. There has not been an exception to this rule in the case of Gen. Logan. Reports have received circulation that when Gen. Logan's physicians became convinced that his case was hopeless they overdosed with aconite, or morphia, or both, to ease his sufferings; that in consequence of this treatment he became unconscious, and that had he been otherwise treated he might have survived. It can be stated, on the authority of the two best sources—the family and the physicians themselves—that these reports, in whole and in part, are untrue.

The members of the family are greatly shocked that such statements should have gained currency, and unite in saying most emphatically that the charges are not true. They say that no morphia nor any opiate of any kind was administered to Gen. Logan during his illness; that Gen. Logan, whose father was a physician, had a very considerable knowledge of medicine himself, and was always extremely averse to the use of morphia, aconite, or opiates in any form, and always gave the most explicit orders, whenever he was ill, that they should not be administered to him. He referred during his illness to a friend whose death he believed was caused by the use of aconite. His physicians and family knew not only what his preferences were, but what his orders were, and even if there had been a disposition to have recourse to opiates, which the attending authorities in charge say was not the case, the commands of the patient and of his family would have to be respected. It can be further said, on the highest possible authority, that Mrs. Logan herself is entirely satisfied with the medical treatment of the case, and regrets keenly that such imputations should have been cast on any of the medical gentlemen in attendance. She was hardly absent from her husband's side for a moment during the last three days and nights, the crisis of his disease. She administered the medicine with her own hands, knowing what they were, and entirely satisfied that all that medical skill could do was done, and that nothing was done improperly.

The Telephone Suits.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Counsel for the government in telephone suits are hard at work preparing the bill to be filed in the Massachusetts suit. The suit will be brought directly against the Bell company, at Boston, as there are no subordinate companies in Massachusetts. Otherwise the bill will be similar to that filed by the government in the Columbus suit.

It is expected that the papers will be printed next week, and sent to Dist. Atty. Sterns, at Boston, who will file them. Judge Nelson, of the District court, and Judge Colt, of the Circuit court, will try the case. It is not known whether or not Justice Gray of the United States Supreme court, whose circuit includes Boston, will take part in the hearing, which will probably be set down for the spring term in May next.

Robbed the Chilian Minister.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—A bold robbery was perpetrated at the residence of Don Domingo Gana, the Chilian minister, last night. The burglar was F. B. Silva, a Brazilian, employed formerly by Gen. Gana as a servant in the minister's household. About a month ago Silva was discharged, under suspicion, and went to New York. He returned to this city last night, entered the home of his former employer, and stole a sum of money and $7,000 worth of jewelry and other valuables. The police were promptly notified, and the thief was arrested this morning while boarding a train for New York. The valuables were recovered.

A Bond Call.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The Secretary of the Treasury has issued the 145th call for a redemption of bonds. The call is for $10,000,000 of the 3 per cents loan of 1882. Principal and accrued interest to be paid on February 1, 1887, and interest will cease on that day.

The called bonds are numbered as follows: $500, original number 47 to original number 48, inclusive; $100, original number 681 to 609, both inclusive, and original 9,940 to original number 9,969, inclusive; $500, original number 246 to original number 266, and number 4,230 to number 4,234, inclusive; $1,000, original number 2,017 to 2,175, inclusive; $10,000, original number 5,316 to number 6,325, inclusive.

Congress To-day.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The Senate, soon after reassembling, adjourned as a mark of respect for the memory of Sen. Logan. The House proceeded to ordinary business.

In the House, a communication was received from A. S. Hewitt, announcing that he had forwarded to the governor of New York his resignation as Representative from the Tenth Congressional district. At 12:45, on the announcement of the death of Gen. Logan, the House adjourned.

Pres. Cleveland.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The President resumed his official duties to-day. He is still suffering from rheumatism, but seems to be improving steadily.

Sudden Death.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—C. H. Sherill, who has been for many years the Washington representative of the Central Pacific railroad company and its affiliated interests, died suddenly in this city to-day, of heart disease.

PENNSYLVANIA REPUBLICANS.

Gen. Logan's Death Disarranged Their Plans—A Boom for Don Cameron.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 30.—The death of Gen. Logan has considerably disarranged the plans of the Republicans in this state. There is a good deal of Blaine sentiment among the people of Pennsylvania, but the party leaders have always been against him, and they are so yet.

There was a quiet movement among them looking toward the support of Logan for the Presidential nomination of 1888. It is said that Sen. Cameron was in it, and it is known that a number of his closest friends were already at work on the scheme. The sudden death of the Illinois Senator of course puts an end to it, but it is not likely that this fact will turn to Blaine's benefit.

For the past two days there have been a number of leading Republicans in this city. The purpose of their simultaneous visit has been a matter of conjecture from the moment of their arrival. Some of them visited Gen. Cameron Tuesday evening, and later held a conference at the room of the state treasurer and prospective United States Sen. Quay, that lasted until 3 o'clock yesterday morning.

Lieut.-Gov.-elect Davies was of the party, and Gov.-elect Beaver arrived yesterday afternoon.

"You can't understand what brings so many of Senator Cameron's political friends to the city?" said one of the gentlemen who was at the Cameron residence and the Quay conference to a reporter last evening. "It is to arrange to bring Sen. Cameron's name forward for the Republican presidential nomination. The party in this state is not willing to put the chances of success in jeopardy again by the nomination of Blaine. It was our purpose to support Logan, but his death has made that impossible. We have now turned to Sen. Don Cameron. We submitted the plan to his father, the venerable but still sagacious politician, and, while he did not encourage the movement, he said nothing to discourage, but seemed pleased over it. You may say that Pennsylvania will have a candidate in the next Republican National convention, and that it will be Sen. J. Don Cameron."

"IMPROVED ORDER OF KNIGHTS."

Such an Organization Said to Exist—Powderly's Ambition.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The *Herald* says: Members of District Assembly 49 smile at the idea of an "Improved Order of Knights of Labor," and state that no such thing exists, and that even if it did it amounted to nothing. There is, however, such an organization, although it is not very prominent at present. Should a special meeting of the general assembly be held, and the alleged unconstitutional work of the Richmond meeting be undone and all matters be set right, it is very probable that no more will be heard of the Improved order; but should a special meeting not be called and the dissatisfaction continue to spread, the Improved order will probably have a boom.

A Knight of Labor, whose hair is grey in the cause of labor, and whose honesty none can question, stated yesterday that while in Philadelphia recently he was informed by some politicians in the order that it was Mr. Powderly's intention to save about $8,000 out of his salary in the next two years, and then resign his position and stand for the position of United States Senator from Pennsylvania.

It has also been stated that a movement is on hand to raise funds to present a case in the courts of Pennsylvania to test the legality of Sec. Litchman's and Treasurer Turner's position. According to the laws of Pennsylvania, it is said all secret societies having officers in the state must elect them according to the constitution of the society. It is claimed that Litchman and Turner was not so elected.

CLEVELAND AND GRADY.

A Presidential Ticket for 1888 Which Recognizes That the South is in the Union.

ATLANTA, Dec. 29.—Cleveland and Grady is the ticket freely discussed in Georgia for the presidential race of 1888. It is held that the reception of Mr. Grady's speech in the North shows that the era of genuine fraternism has dawned; that the new South has furnished the spokesman for the occasion, and that he who so fittingly proclaimed the end of the era of hate and suspicion would be the proper man to roam in the political field. Already two of the most important daily newspapers in the state, the *Daily Journal*, of Atlanta, has declared for Cleveland and Grady. It says:

"The South has not, for many years, been favored with the selection of a candidate for President or Vice President by the National Democracy; we therefore suggest and nominate for Vice President in 1888, subject to the decision of the National Democratic convention, Henry Woodfin Grady. This ticket would sweep the South like a whirlwind."

Stamping Out Pleuro-Pneumonia.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—The state live stock commission has paid all the expenses incident to the slaughter of the quarantined cattle. The net receipts of the commission from the sale of the meat was $35,398. The original appropriation in the hands of the commission for paying the owners of animals slaughtered by the state was $50,000, of which the amount $2,500 had been used in the slaughter of glandered horses, leaving $47,500 in the treasury. With the money now derived from the sale of the distillery beef, there is $82,898 in the treasury.

The total amount paid the cattle owners is $53,243. The last of the original appropriation was expended yesterday. All the expenses of the quarantine are paid by the government. These were $150 a day, aggregating $16,000. There are now about 1,000 cattle in quarantine. Dr. Casewell and four government inspectors are now busy quarantining in Jefferson and Cicero, and will, later on, inspect all the cattle in Lake View and Hyde Park. It is intended to inspect every herd of cattle in Chicago and those five outlying towns, and every head that has been exposed to pleuro-pneumonia will be appraised and slaughtered.

Georgia Grave-Robbers.

ATLANTA, Dec. 31.—Yesterday John Hardeman, a well-to-do colored man of Cobb county, came to this city in search of the body of his son Charles, which had been stolen from the Smyrna graveyard the day before. He was given police escort to examine the vats of three medical colleges here. He was unsuccessful in his search, but a greater sensation lay behind. There was found in one college seven bodies, in another four, and in another the half of one body. Out of the twelve thus exposed to the officer's view there were only two whom he did not know in life. One body was that of a married lady who was buried within the past month with great pomp. Another was that of a person whom the officer had seen in perfect health but a week before, and of whose death he had not heard. Several were persons generally known in the vicinity. All this goes to prove that grave-robbing goes on right here where least expected. An effort is being made to keep the disclosures secret, as a general knowledge of them would arouse popular indignation, and lead to serious consequences.

Spring and Axle Workers.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 4.—The second international convention of spring and axle workers is in session in Allegheny City to-day. Delegates present from New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Maine, Missouri, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Canada. The most important work of the convention will be the adoption of a standard scale of wages for the spring and axle workers of the United States and Canada. There are 3,000 members of the organization, 500 of whom are in Pittsburg and Allegheny. As at present constituted they claim that they are paid more irregularly than any other skilled mechanics in any other line of trade.

Checks for $500,000 and $425,000.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—Thomas F. Ryan, the treasurer of the Broadway and Seventh avenue railroad company, in his capacity as representative of the Philadelphia Horse Railroad syndicate, deposited with Drexel, Morgan & Co., yesterday, two checks, one for $500,000, the other for $425,000 with interest from February 1 last. These two checks completed the sale of the Broadway and Seventh avenue railroad, made conditionally by Messrs. Kerr, Fosha, Sharp, and others, to the Philadelphians in April, in accordance with an agreement made about the time the Senate Railroad committee began its investigation of the Broadway Surface Railroad company in its relations to the board of Aldermen.

An Agreement with Sioux Indians.

POPLAR RIVER, Mont., Jan. 3.—Commissioners Wright, Larrabee and Daniels have effected an agreement with the Sioux Indians at Fort Peck agency, by which the Indians concede all title to their land except that retained for the reservation, the boundary of which will follow the Missouri river from the mouth of the Big Muddy over to the mouth of Milk river, thence 40 miles above the mouth of the Big Muddy for a stipulation of $1,650,000 in annual payments of $165,000 for ten years. The reserve will contain about 500,000 acres. The Indians will be given the right to use the wood on the south side of the Missouri, opposite the reserve, for fuel and building purposes.

A SCHEME TO OUST POWDERLY.

A Secret Boycott Against Armour & Co., of Chicago—The Eight-Hour Movement Not Abandoned—Chicago Socialists—More Strikes—Powderly and the Socialists.

CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—A local paper says, this morning: The calling of a special session of the general assembly of the Knights of Labor has been practically abandoned, so far as District Assembly No. 24 is concerned, and as the movement of the special session began in that body it is probable that the plan has been given up altogether. This was the conclusion of the matter which was given by a number of Knights who were interviewed on the subject yesterday.

"I don't think the plan ever had much basis," said one. "It arose in the excitement over the Powderly order, and was adopted without much idea of what a special session of the general assembly really meant when it came to the experts. Then we got to thinking over what Powderly had really said, and found out that it was not so objectionable after all. He simply ordered the assemblies not to pass resolutions *indorsing* anarchy. None of the assemblies had indorsed anarchy; they have merely asked for a new trial for the anarchists. We found we had no particular fight with the general master workman, except we thought he would have done as well if he had not sent such an order. The socialists did not like what Powderly said in his New York letter, and are very angry about it, but they could not hang a charge for impeachment upon it."

Another Move for Eight Hours.

CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—It is stated that the carpenters of this city will be the next of the building trades to make a determined attempt to obtain the eight-hour day the coming season. Two plans are now under consideration by the unions, which will tend to consolidate the organized carpenters into one body practically. One plan is for delegates from local assemblies to meet and determine the question of hours and wages for the coming season. The second plan is much favored, and, if successful, will have an important bearing on all building operations hereafter. It contemplates the organization of a distinct district assembly of the Knights of the building trades exclusively. The call is out for the preliminary meeting of delegates to form such a district assembly. The object of the call is stated to be the unification of the building trades into a district by themselves, where it is claimed their interests can be far better looked after than in District Assemblies Nos. 24 and 57, to which they are now attached. To get a charter from the general executive board will probably cause the most trouble, as it is understood the general officers have a decided objection to distinct trade districts.

Another Tie Up Threatened.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—The drivers and conductors in the Broadway railroad are still grumbling over the refusal of the president to restore the old rates of wages, several of them said yesterday that "a tie up" on the road some time during the week would not be improbable.

How a Secret Boycott Works.

CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—The boycott levied against Armour & Co. is the cause of considerable discussion in the labor ranks. That the boycott had been made and was about to be carried into effect has been an open secret among the leaders of organized labor. It is stated that soon after the close of the packing house strike one local assembly declared an open boycott, and called upon all labor to do the same. Few if any locals followed the example. They realized that such a step made them amenable to the Illinois conspiracy laws, which they were anxious to evade. A number of private meetings were held, and a "secret" boycott determined upon.

A mining paper publishes an interview with a Knight of Labor, who says: "There is a general misunderstanding in regard to this boycott. This is a 'secret boycott. It emanates from an unknown source, and can be traced to no particular person or persons. The secret boycott is the favorite weapon against powerful corporations or firms that are liable to use all the resources at their command in retaliation. The boycott is entirely unofficial, and members of the knights are not in duty bound to obey its requests. Experience has shown, however, that in operation the secret boycott is far more effective than the open or official boycott."

A Strike of Six Hundred.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Jan. 4.—Six hundred laborers on the coal docks at Bryonne struck yesrerday against a reduction of wages. The companies affected, anticipating trouble, tried to get the boats towed to South Amboy for loading, but the crews refused to proceed farther than Elizabethport unless they were paid $50 per month. They have been getting $35 per month.

A Scheme to Get Rid of Powderly.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—The *World* says: The action of the Knights of Labor at the recent convention in Richmond in extending the tenure of office of General Master Workman Powderly and increasing his salary from $1,500 to $5,000, both of which proceedings are pronounced illegal by many of the Knights, and may lead to the disruption of the order, pending it is now one of the leading members of District Assembly No. 49, upon the advice of Victor Drury, who is a friend of Herr Most. It is further alleged that these changes were made in order that Powderly might be thereby made so unpopular with members that he would be forced to resign his office. Then, it is said, an effort will be made to make T. B. Fotheringham, present one of the executive board, general master workman, and then remove the headquarters of the order to this city. The purchase of Pythagoras Hall in Canal street was made recently so as to have the way cleared for the coup d' etat.

The effect has been as anticipated by the promoters, if the story is true. There is a decidedly dissatisfied feeling prevalent among the rank and file, and Mr. Powderly has been blamed on all sides for accepting in October what he refused in May. It is conceded by many, however, that he has been betrayed. "I have seen the present leaders of No. 49," said a prominent member of the order, yesterday, "shake Mr. Powderly's hand, vowing friendship for him, and in a few minutes afterwards, when he had gone away, speak of him bitterly as any enemy would do. I know these men and would not trust them. They are ambitious, and would go to any extreme to gratify their ruling passion. You may rely upon it that the scheme of making Tom McGuire general master workmanand removing the headquarters to this city has better foundation than many will believe."

WILL NOT PROTECT GAMBLERS.

The Lard Pool in Court—The Losers Must Grin and Bear It.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—James R. Keene, N. N. G. Miller and Washington Butcher's sons, in December, 1884, formed a pool to advance the price of lard, and employed E. A. Kent & Co., of this city, and Poole, Sturges & Co., of Chicago, as brokers for the purchase and sale of the lard. It is said that a small fortune was realized. Members of the pool charged that their brokers had defrauded them by making false purchases and sales. Keene sued Kent and others in the Supreme court to recover his share of the profits of the pool. They interpreted a defense that the transactions were gambling and that the law would not force them to account.

Judge Daniels, of the general term of the Supreme court, has rendered his opinion, reversing the opinion of the court below, which directed the brokers to file a bill of particulars of the pool transactions.

He holds that the defense interposed is valid, and that the law does not sanction that kind of gambling. Combinations to keep articles of food or other necessities off the market, with the view of getting higher prices, are unlawful conspiracies, punishable as crime. When successfully carried out the effect would be to impose an additional burden on the public. It is little less than respectable robbery, unsanctioned by law. There are no legal means to force a division of the plunder. They cannot appeal to the courts.

The decision concludes by saying that Keene has no right to expect that the court will interpose its authority in his behalf to enforce that well known principle of honor upon which his alleged rights must be successfully dependent.

In Need of Food and Clothing.

ALBANY, Tex., Dec. 30.—The county judges of the drouth-stricken district are in session at the court house. Twenty counties are represented. They report in the aggregate 27,900 persons in actual need of food and clothing. They will make an official report to-morrow and publish an appeal to the legislature and ask the indorsement of the governor. They will also make an appeal to the charitable people for immediate relief.

Oleomargarie in Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 4.—The state Supreme court affirmed the constitutionality and validity of the oleomargarine act. In the course of the opinion the court says: The manufacture, sale and keeping of an article may all alike be prohibited by the legislature, if in their judgment the protection of the public from injury and fraud requires it. To deny the authority of the legislature to do so is to attack all that is vital in the police power.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

The Fast Express on the Baltimore & Ohio Collides With a Freight Train—Great Loss of Life—The Train on Fire.

TIFFIN, O., Jan. 4.—The fast train on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad which left New York about 9 o'clock yesterday for Chicago, with five coaches and four sleepers, all well filled with passengers, collided with an eastern bound freight of seven miles east of this city about 4 a. m. The fast train was about 50 minutes late, and was running at the rate of 60 miles an hour. Passing Republic, a small station, like a flash, they rushed along to the curve one mile west of that town, when suddenly the engineer saw the freight train under full headway, within 100 yards of him. He at once applied the brake and reversed his engine, but it did no good, and the next instant the crash came, telescoping the coaches and piling them up on each other.

To add consternation to the terrible scene, fire broke out in the smoking-car, and soon spread to the other cars. Many were killed outright, while others, wedged in among the broken cars, were

SLOWLY CONSUMED BY THE FLAMES.

The screams of the wounded and dying were heart-rending, but no assistance could be given until a farmer, awakened by the crash, came, and, with other neighbors, worked like heroes to save the perishing.

At this writing, nineteen dead bodies have been recovered, and they lie burned and disfigured in the snow beside the track. Help was sent from Republic and from this city as soon as the news was received here.

It is a fearful sight, and recalls the Ashtabula horror of the winter of 1876.

LIFE INSURANCE.

A Mutual Benefit Association Enjoined from Insuring Children.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—Deputy Atty. Gen. Poste recently moved, before Justice Barrett, in the Supreme Court chambers, to have the Globe Mutual Benefit association restrained from carrying on its business, upon the ground that the company was insolvent and that the insurance of infants, as practiced by the association, is unauthorized by law.

Judge Barrett handed down a decision to-day in the case. He says: "The business of this company is limited to that of life and casualty insurance upon the co-operative and assessment plan. Only members who accept the contract obligations of such membership can be thus insured.

"Infants are not eligible, as they cannot make a contract. Their parents cannot insure their children's lives as members in such co operative or assignment companies. Only members can be insured, and an infant cannot be a member of a society and vote."

The company's regulations are illegal on the subject of insuring children, was the conclusion of the judge. Judge Barrett concludes by saying that this branch of the company's business must therefore be enjoined.

Mrs. Hurley and the Insurance Companies.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Dec. 30.—Henry T. Culver, of Boston, superintendent of agencies of the John Hancock insurance company, and Edward H. Hamill, of New York, medical supervisor for the Prudential insurance company of Newark, N. J., have been here investigating the circumstances of the sudden death of Thomas Hughes, on whose life Mrs. Ann Hurley had a policy in each company amounting to $925. The gentlemen interested preserve the utmost secrecy, but admit that there is every reason to believe that Hughes was poisoned.

It is said that the officers of the companies and Mrs. Hurley also holds policies in the Metropolitan company and the Homeopathic company, of New York, for about $1,000. It is also thought that investigations are to be made as to the cause of death in one or two other cases wherein Mrs. Hurley was the beneficiary in the policies of insurance that secured under other bodies will be exhumed for examination.

Street Car Strikers Resort to Dynamite.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—A sensational development in the street car trouble occurred to-day on the Geary street line. As an inspector descended the man hole in the course of his duties on the road, near Vanness avenue, he found two dynamite cartridges with a fuse attached in the tunnel through which the cable runs under the track. A further search was made and two more of these destructive agents were found.

It is thought that the cartridges were placed in the tunnel on Sunday night, in readiness to be exploded yesterday when an assault was made on the employes of the road, and that the presence of police and the determined fight they made prevented the consummation of their scheme.

The amount of dynamite secreted under the track was sufficient, not only to blow up the road-bed and any car which might have been over it, but would have caused immense damage to property in the vicinity.

The Express Robbers.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 3.—Fred Witrock, Thomas Weaver and W. W. Haight, the latter of whom was brought here from Louisville yesterday, were photographed to-day. These are the only members of the train robbery gang who will be prosecuted in this city. All the others who were arrested have been released, with the exception of Oscar Cook, who will answer to the court in Kansas City. All of the stolen money found on the possession of Rhiney, Mrs. Haight and others, has been recovered, and as they knew nothing of the robbery until their arrest, the express company considers that nothing is to be gained by prosecuting them. As to Fotheringham's guilt or innocence, detectives and officials of the express company have little to say. It is pretty generally believed, however, that Witrock's contemplated official statement of the robbery will remove all suspicion that he (Fotheringham) was in any way voluntarily connected with the robbery.

The Whisky Pool Going to Pieces.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—A local paper prints an interview with Mr. Adolph Woolner, of Peoria, who has just returned from Cincinnati, where he attended a meeting of the Western Export association (whisky pool). Mr. Woolner said that although the meeting was comparatively harmonious, yet he predicted that in less than a year or so the pool will be dissolved. The fact is, he claims the pool has been carrying a dead weight in the form of so many closed houses or distilleries, and has been paying those houses so heavily for being closed that the burden has proved and is proving too great for the running distilleries. He says then mode of conducting the pool has proved an incentive to many outside of it to start in opposition and flood the market, while the members in the syndicate have been the losers. He predicted lower prices on whisky in the future.

Free Trade Mass Meeting.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—The Free Trade club are preparing a mass meeting, to be held at Cooper Union on the evening of January 11, to protest against the retention of war taxes and the attempt to reduce the internal revenue by taking off the tax on whisky and tobacco. D. Willis James is to preside, and the speakers, who have already promised to be present, will be F. W. Dawson, editor of the Charleston *News and Courier*, Hon. Perry Belmont, Hon. William Dorsheimer, Hon. Carl Schurz, Henry George and Congressman-elect Russell, of Massachusetts. It is also expected that Speaker Carlisle and Hon. Frank Hurd will make addresses.

Sec. Lamar's Marriage.

MACON, Ga., Dec. 29.—The most industrious efforts are still made by the parties directly interested to keep the exact date of Sec. Lamar's marriage to Mrs. Holt a secret. No doubt is entertained of the marriage, and the lady's friends have whispered enough to warrant the impression that Thursday of this week is the day selected. Mrs. Holt has no desire, it is understood, to reach Washington until the New Year's ordeal at the capital is over.

Another "Reformer."

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—Pres. Henry R. Beckman called the new board of aldermen to order at noon to-day, and addressed the members in congratulatory terms in regard to their duties in office. Ald. Pat Divver was re-elected vice president, and Capt. F. J. Twomey clerk. Mayor Hewitt's message was read to the board. He announced his intention to thoroughly investigate the alleged abuses in the city departments, and to reform wherever necessary.

This is a "Reform" Administration.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The secretary of the Treasury to-day directed the removal of Mr. A. M. Scriba, from the office of Bank Examiner at New York. He refused to resign at the request of the comptroller of the currency. Mr. V. P. Snyder, the newly appointed examiner, left Washington Sunday with instructions to take charge to-day.

Straits Frozen Over.

CHEBOYGAN, Mich., Jan. 3.—The mercury stood 15 degrees below zero yesterday morning. The straits have been frozen over since Friday, and the ice is strong enough to bear horses. This is the earliest freezing of the straits in many years.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

A STEAMER BURNED AT SEA,

The Commander and Four of the Crew Will Die from Injuries.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 29.—The two masted steamer Sir John, which sailed last night at 10:30 o'clock, was two hours later burned, just outside the harbor. The first news was brought in by a passing schooner, which saw her on fire. Searching parties started out, and this morning found the crew of twenty men huddled together in the snow on the rocks at Black Point. Their clothes were frozen to their bodies and they were suffering terribly. They were brought to this city on sledges. It was found that five were so badly burned, including Capt. Purdy, the commander, that they can not live.

The fire broke out in the galley at midnight from an overturned lamp. The flames spread so rapidly that when the vessel was beached the pilot house, where the captain stood at the wheel, was in flames. John Sinclair, the steward, was drowned while swimming ashore. The rest got on land by a line carried ashore by the captain.

The loss on the steamer, which was new, this being her third trip, was $220,000; insured for $6,000. The loss on the cargo is $50,000; insurance unknown.

The New Liberal Leader.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—The *Times* says Mr. Goschen was reluctant to accept office, but was strongly advised to do so by Lord Hartington. It is expected that Mr. Goschen will meet Lord Salisbury to-day, and finally settle with him the terms which he will enter his cabinet. He will join the ministry, the *Times* says, on the understanding that he does so as a Liberal, and that his object is to strengthen the union cause. He desires to be satisfied that he is in agreement with the government on all important foreign and domestic questions.

Mr. Goschen has not been offered the leadership of the government in the House of Commons, but that will naturally revert to him after the pro tem. lead of Mr. W. H. Smith. Lord Salisbury has assured Lord Hartington that he is trying, with some hope of success, to overcome the reluctance of the Conservatives to accept Lord Hartington as prime minister.

Referring to Mr. Chamberlin, the *Times* says that the gentleman regards himself as perfectly loyal to Lord Hartington, he has undoubtedly made overtures to the Gladstonian party for a reunion.

Russia Wants War.

VIENNA, Dec. 29.—The Vienna press is becoming convinced that Russia is determined on war. Reports of increased Russian armaments are continually coming to hand from various sources.

The latest intelligence is to the effect that 300,000 Russian troops have been ordered to mass in Kieff, and that the occup